MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY — JOPLIN

THE CHART

SOUND WAVES

Southern's radio station is limited to classical music. Find out why. *Page 3*

POETIC

The life of Joplin's Langston Hughes was celebrated at Southern. *Page 12*

FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 2004 WWW.THECHARTONLINE.COM VOLUME 64, ISSUE NO. 19

MIAA Champions!

THE MEN AND WOMEN INDOOR TRACK AND FIELD TEAMS BOTH WIN THE INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HISTORY

Andy Tevis/The Chart

Brian Lyons, left, Chris Turner, Kyle Rutledge, Paul Koehler, Thomas Quaid and teammates celebrate their 112-111 MIAA victory over eight-time defending champion Central Missouri State University. Both Missouri Southern track and field teams claimed MIAA Indoor Championships Feb. 27-28 at Leggett & Platt Athletic Center. Six members of the University's indoor track and field teams will compete March 12-13 in Boston at the NCAA Division II Indoor Championships. **See Page 14 for more.**

A Smile
Worth Remembering

Student's legacy lives on through fun memories

BY JERRY MANTER
Editor-in-Chief

All Josh Celli ever wanted to do in life was make people smile and make them happy.

That's all he wanted.

Josh loved making phone calls out of the blue to say hello to friends and family. Often he never had anything important to say, but people on the other end of the line always knew he was just checking in to see if they were OK.

And that's what people loved about him.

"He would always check up on me," said Kat Dzidic, Josh's ex-girlfriend and one of his best friends. "He would say, 'I'm just calling to see if you're happy.'"

Even after Josh's death, people that were closest to him still can't keep themselves from smiling despite the pain. The memories of him were too grand and were always so memorable.

"That man knew how to love," Dzidic said.

On Feb. 27, 2004, 20-year-old Josh Celli, a junior at Missouri Southern, was killed in a car accident on Highway 19 outside of Owensville, Mo. A semi-truck was making a left turn above a hill, which left Josh and his brother Joey Celli little time to react in their vehicle. Josh was killed on impact and 18-year-old Joey is in stable condition at a St. Louis hospital.

Although the sting of the tragedy is still with Dzidic, she's doing everything possible to remember his laugh and all the times they shared together.

"Just look at this smile," she said of a photo. "He was so full of life."

Dzidic, senior psychology and French major, remembers one of the first encounters she had with Josh. She didn't realize it at the time, but Josh was struck by Dzidic's presence and her personality.

He later told Dzidic about the first time they met.

"I fell in love with you the first time I saw you," Josh told Dzidic.

Mandy Rosa, Josh's mother, said her son did everything possible to brighten the lives of everyone he knew.

"He wasn't happy unless everyone else was happy," Rosa said.

TURN TO **SMILE**, PAGE 9

Special to The Chart

Josh Celli, junior criminal justice major, based a majority of his life on making sure his friends and family were always happy. Celli was killed in a traffic accident on Feb. 27, 2004.

Week strives for healthy awareness

BY JESSICA MACINTOSH
Online Editor

Eating Disorders Awareness Week brought activities and a guest speaker to Missouri Southern.

This year's theme was "Listen to Your Body."

Dale Voigt-Catlin, counselor/coordinator of Outreach, said this is the 15th year nationally for the Eating Disorders Awareness Week and the fifth year at Southern.

"There is an organization that helps provide materials and ideas to all the colleges because that is what the targeted area is," Voigt-Catlin said. "So we get a lot of help from the National Eating Disorders Association."

On Feb. 24, as part of the awareness week, *Real Women Have Curves* was shown in the television lounge of the Student Life Center. There was a follow-up discussion after the movie.

The movie, starring America Ferrera and George Lopez, deals with a Mexican-American teenager who is on her way to becoming a

TURN TO **WEEK** PAGE 11

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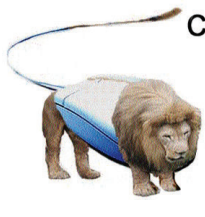
WEEKEND OUTLOOK

SATURDAY
Partly Cloudy
High: 61
Low: 39

SUNDAY
Partly Cloudy
High: 52
Low: 32

ONLINE



Click on the online edition of *The Chart* at www.thechartonline.com

Question of the week:
What is your stance on gay marriages?

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Funds occupy Senate's time

Odem approves tree in memorial of fallen student

BY NATE BILLINGS
International Editor

Rain did not keep senators from coming to the March 3 Student Senate meeting and discussing the issues at hand.

Senate will pay the cost of buying and planting a tree in dedication to Josh Celli, a junior at Missouri Southern who was killed in a car accident, Feb. 27.

The tree is to be planted on the residence hall side of campus.

Zack Odem, Senate president, approved the allocation himself with the consent of the Senate advisers.

Any allocation $100 or under may be approved by the president and advisers without a vote from the Senate. The tree will cost approximately $60.

Among the committee meeting reports, senator Eric Ducommun, sophomore senator, gave a brief overview of the parking and traffic reports committee.

Senators laughed at pieces of the report.

"Unless your student ID or driver's license says Julio León, students cannot park in the president's spot," Ducommun said.

Senate had $9,900 at the beginning of the meeting.

Two organizations received funding for conference trips.

August 4-8, Kappa Alpha will be sending members to Austin. KA will attend a leadership conference to learn about becoming more involved in community and campus projects.

Josh Stout, senior CIS major and senator, represented the organization. The organization received $1,000.

Alpha Kappa Delta, the sociology honors society, received $1,000 to go to a conference meeting in Kansas City.

The conference will allow 11 members to meet with professionals and other leaders in the field of sociology.

Jeannie Archie, senior sociology major and Senate vice president represented the organization.

Senators who are a member of an organization requesting funds are not allowed to vote on the allocation of funds. Senate officers do not vote on allocation requests.

A request from the group World Issues for Study by Educators was tabled because the organization could not attend the meeting.

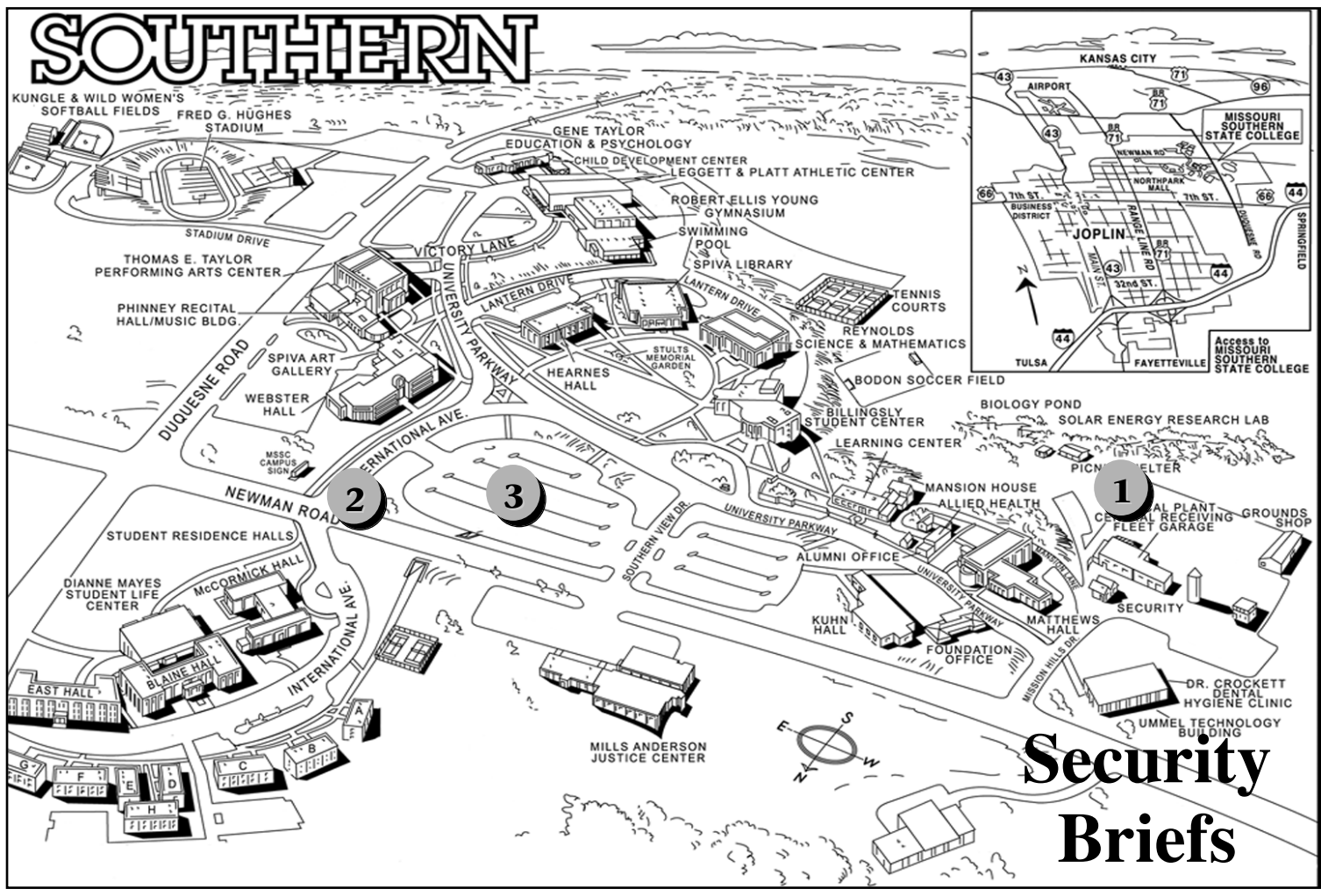
After brief reminders about track and field and basketball games, Senate voted to adjourn.

Odem said the electronic sign project has become the electronic marquee project.

"Hopefully by graduation we will have a sign on Newman Road welcoming the graduates and their families," he said.

Odem said the project is still in the planning stage, but will be ready for contract bids soon.

He said because Newman is a state road, there are other regulations slowing the process down.



Security Briefs

Unknown assailant attacks, dents parked vehicle

1 Property Destruction

2/27/2004

8:55 a.m.

Security was notified by a student who stated someone had damaged her car while she was in class.

The student stated she parked her car, and when she returned, she noticed a dent the size of a hand on the right rear quarter panel. The student did not know who had damaged her car.

2 Property Destruction

3/1/2004

6:15 p.m.

Security was notified by a student who stated she had hit a University sign with her vehicle.

The student said she was turning into campus, and the next thing she knew, she was on the curb and had hit the sign. The sign was a speed limit and no parking sign.

The student said she would pay for damages to the sign.

3 Hit & Run

3/2/2004

10 a.m.

Security received a call that a student's vehicle was damaged while parked in the parking lot.

The student stated she had parked her car, and upon returning, she noticed damage to the right side of her car. There was no paint or marks around the damaged area of the vehicle indicating the color of the vehicle that left the scene.

Security briefs are compiled from Missouri Southern Department of Public Safety reports.

Campus Calendar

Southern resumes safety course, participants given license to carry

Missouri Southern's Law Enforcement Academy will resume several eight-hour firearms safety training courses that will satisfy the training requirement for the concealed weapons law in Missouri.

The training course has been approved for Barton, Jasper, Lawrence, McDonald and Newton County residents. Participants will receive training in the areas of legal requirements of use of force, care and cleaning of firearms, handgun safety and legal aspects of firearms.

The academy will utilize the live-fire range and two computerized electronic firing ranges. Participants must pass a live-fire qualification exercise.

The cost of the course is $95. Those enrolling in the course are required to bring their firearm, eye protection, ear protection and 50 rounds of ammunition.

Those who do not have their own firearm and ammunition must pay an additional $25 charge. The fee for the course must be prepaid.

Participants must be 23-years-old to register. Persons interested in enrolling may contact Brenda Norman at 625-9328 or by e-mail at norman-b@mssu.edu.

Board sponsors talent show, award-winning comedienne hosts

The Campus Activities Board is putting on a talent show at 7 p.m. Wednesday in Taylor Auditorium.

Alexandria McHale will host the event. McHale has been seen on "The Tonight Show" and "The Late Late Show" and she was voted 2002 and 2003 Female Entertainer of the Year by the Campus Activities Network.

Prizes at the show will be awarded for both group and individual categories.

The prizes are as follows: first place, $200; second place, $150; third place, $100; and fourth place, $50.

The event is free and open to the public.

International film fest presents French film about four shop girls

The sixth program in the current 42nd Annual International Film Festival is *Les Bonne Femmes* (*The Good Girls*).

This film chronicles the grim lives of four young shop girls in Paris. The girls spend their days working in an appliance store and fending off the advances of their lecherous boss. At night, they attempt to escape their drab existence by going out on the town with a series of boring and sometimes violent men.

The film will be shown at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday in Matthews Hall Auditorium. Admission is $2 for adults and $1.50 for senior citizens and students at the door.

Four school board hopefuls talk about issues on 'Newsmakers'

An upcoming edition of "Newsmakers" will feature interviews with four candidates seeking seats on the Joplin R-8 School Board. The candidates will discuss their reasons for running, some of the key issues facing the district and the future of Joplin schools. Two positions are up for election in April.

Judy Stiles, program host, will talk to the candidates: Mike Landis, Ron Gatz, Jim Coburn and Curtis Squire. Landis and Gatz are incumbents. The program airs on three local television stations.

It will be shown at 5:30 a.m. March 20 on KOAM; 5:30 p.m. March 24 on KGCS; and 7 p.m. March 26 on KOZJ.

KGCS, the television station at Missouri Southern, airs on Joplin/Webb City cable channel 7 and UHF channel 57.

Discount price for Spanish camp available to children of faculty

Dr. Tatiana Karmanova, director of the International Language Resource Center, is offering a reduced price to Missouri Southern employees for La Villa Española, or Spanish Village. Children and grandchildren of Southern employees can attend for $300 for the residential camp or $200 for day camp.

The Spanish Village is a Spanish immersion camp where children learn Spanish language, crafts, songs, dances, geography and other aspects of Spanish-speaking cultures. The dates for the camp are July 11-16.

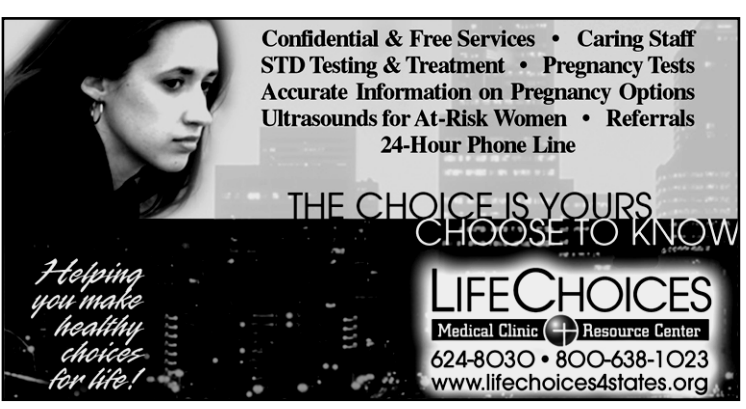
For information, contact Karmanova at 625-3109 or via e-mail at karmanova-t@mssu.edu.

Deadline for exchange program approaches for applicants

Deadlines for the bilateral exchange program are approaching.

Deadlines are as follows: Universidad de Las Americas in Chile, March 5; Bremen, University of Applied Sciences, Germany, March 31; Jonkoping International Business School-Sweden, June 1; Ryukoku University, Japan, June 2; Kansai Gaidai, Japan, April 15; and Gakashuin Women's College, Japan, April 15.

For information, contact Stephanie Goad at 625-9372.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Criminal justice department dishes out chili

BY JERRY MANTER
Editor-in-Chief

An aroma of chili seasoning and spices filled the Anderson Justice Center March 3 for the department's Chili Cook-Off/Feed annual fund-raiser.

More than 20 students and faculty members submitted a crock-pot full of their personal chili. Some added more spice while others added more tomatoes.

"It's my dad's recipe," said Jenny Hartman, senior criminal justice major.

Hartman said there isn't anything specific that sets the recipe apart because it changes constantly.

"Whatever my dad puts in the recipe is fine," Hartman said. "It's different every time."

For this particular batch, however, Hartman said there were a healthy amount of Mexican spices, ground beef and chili peppers.

"I love cooking," she said.

Those attending the chili gathering paid $4 for an all-you-can-eat sampling of the chili batches. Proceeds of the event will be donated to the Gateway School in Joplin. Judges from the men and women's basketball staff helped select the three winners. The first place winner, Craig Garrard, senior criminal justice major, received $100, Clayton Ballard, senior criminal justice major, won second place and $75, and the third place winner, Al Shultz, received $50.

"I called my father for his secret recipe."

Cassie West
Senior Criminal Justice Major

A couple of hours before judging took place, several tables were full of crock pots.

"I think the participation was excellent," said Cassie West, senior criminal justice major and president of the Criminal Justice Student Association.

West didn't have her own chili recipe, and, like Hartman, looked to her father for a little help.

"I called my father for his secret recipe," West said. "It will be interesting to see how it tastes."

In the chili recipe West added beans, chili seasoning and Rotel mix.

"There was something else that I was supposed to add, but I didn't have time," she said.

West said she was happy to be able to participate in such a worthwhile cause.

"It's our contribution to the community," she said.

Mike Hulderman, associate professor of criminal justice and adviser to CJSA, said the annual event is good for the University.

"It gets everyone on campus involved," Hulderman said. "It gives them an opportunity to try different chili."

Each year the proceeds go to a different organization.

"It's all about a good cause," he said.

Rebecca Bridges, freshman criminal justice major, made her own chili with the help of her mother. Bridges was one of many students who participated in the Chili Feed.

Nancy Hight-Morris/ The Chart

Joshua Christensen, classical DJ for Missouri Southern's 88.7 FM radio station, gets ready to play another song.

Brandi Boulware/ The Chart

Limited budget keeps play list to classical

BY MONIQUE JAMERSON
Staff Writer

Listeners can tune in to 89.9 FM and enjoy a variety of music, or move the dial to 88.7 FM, with two formats, 24-hours a day.

Pittsburg State University's radio station, 89.9 FM KRPS, offers different sounds of music: jazz, blues, celtic, classical and folk music. This is unlike the radio station at Missouri Southern, 88.7 FM KXMS, which offers classical and folk music.

Bess Chambers, senior English major, said the radio station could benefit from a little more diversity.

"I am not saying they should do away with classical music but add some more variety and then more people would know about it," Chambers said. "It would be a great opportunity to give expression to the culture and creativity of the students."

Chambers said if students had a lot more control over the radio station programming, it would create a sense of community on campus.

Others like the radio station just the way it is.

Gloria Chapman, senior graphic communication and fine arts major, said she enjoys listening to the radio station.

"After a stressful day at school, classical music is relaxing," Chapman said.

Dr. J.R. Moorman, head of the communications department, said the radio station serves a wonderful need for the community, students and faculty.

"Music Appreciation class inspired me to appreciate classical music," Moorman said. "And I think our students would benefit from the exposure."

Southern has five disc jockeys and one volunteer who loves the experience.

Joshua Christensen, volunteer for the radio station, said he has had a lot of fun at the station and thinks it's a good thing Southern has an exclusively classical music radio station.

In 1986, the decision was made by the Board of Regents to have a classical format that would not compete with commercial radio stations.

Southern is not able to offer varieties other than classical and folk music, because there is a limited budget.

Jeff Skibbe, KXMS general manager, said the station needs more personnel and budget finances before it can have more of a variety.

"We just don't have the resources that PSU has to expand our radio station," Skibbe said.

Ginny Wallace, operation director for KXMS, said there are students that don't know there is a radio station.

"I encourage students to tune in and listen, and I believe they will be pleasantly surprised," Wallace said.

Water aerobics course strives for energetic workout

BY T.J. GERLACH
Managing Editor

One fitness program at Missouri Southern is making waves.

Cindy Webb, wellness coordinator for campus recreation, said she took over teaching the water aerobics class when she came to Southern four years ago.

"The biggest draw [of the aquatics] is it takes away the vertical impact on the joints," Webb said. "A lot of people that have trouble doing land exercises can get in the water and work hard and very intense and it will not bother them."

Webb said water aerobics is a "very resistive" exercise since people work against the resistance of the water. She said it helps with flexibility.

The classes usually spend about 45 minutes in the water. Webb said the class typically begins with a rhythmic warm-up to get over the water's chill. Most of the exercises are cardiovascular, which elevates the heart rate and moves the large muscle groups.

"Generally, you can get a lot of muscle balance because you're not working against gravity," Webb said. "You have to push and pull more equally in the water."

She said water aerobics is not just for obese people or people in rehabilitation. Though water aerobics is considered for people who cannot exercise on land, those who can workout on land can get a more intense workout in the water, Webb said. It is an intense workout, even for "in-shape" people.

Andy Tevis/The Chart

Kim Boessen, bottom, leads her Tuesday water aerobics class through some warmup exercises.

"The key to the water aerobics, in a nutshell, is you get out of it what you put into it," she said.

"I think water aerobics is good because it works the muscles without straining you," said Michelle Klund, sophomore special education major.

Klund decided to participate in the program after her roommate was already in it.

"It looked like fun," she said.

There are three sections of the program offered. The first is an academic course taught by Webb

TURN TO **WATER**, PAGE 12

Students prep for upcoming spring break

BY T.J. GERLACH
Managing Editor

Students do not have to go home, and many of them will not be staying here for spring break this semester.

With spring break quickly approaching, most students already have their breaks planned. Several students are planning on traveling for break.

"I'm going fishing in Kentucky," said Dustin Johnson, freshman environmental health major.

Johnson said he goes fishing every year for spring break, but this will be the first time he will go to Kentucky.

Jessica Deatrick, sophomore elementary education major, said she will join the women's track team in Florida over spring break. There the team will compete at the Florida State Snowbird Invitational in Tallahassee, March 19-20.

"I'm going to Texas with my family," said Katie Leiter, freshman psychology major.

Leiter said she has family in Texas and is planning to go to Six Flags while there.

While some students will be traveling, they may just be traveling to go home.

"I'm just going home, said Heather Henderson, freshman political science major. "[I'm going] to see my family and visit my sister."

Southern Trips for Spring Break

- Two Paris trips
- London
- Spain

Travel was on one student's mind, but his plans were thwarted during the winter.

"I'm not going anywhere this spring break," said Coby Utter, sophomore CIS major. "I was planning on going to Panama City."

Utter said his plans changed during the recent icy season. He said he hit a car and the $600 he had for spring break ended up going to pay for repairs.

Other students have different plans for this year's break.

"I'm just working — lots of work," said Brooke Schuster, freshman psychology major.

Joel Roush, sophomore physics/pre-engineering major, said he would also be working at his job at Braum's.

Missouri Southern will also send four groups to Europe during spring break.

Two groups will be going to Paris for the week. Brenda Kilby, instructor of communications, and Dr. Chad Stebbins, director of the Institute of International Studies, will make an annual trip to the International Media Seminar with a group of communications students.

Dr. Paul Teverow, professor of history, will take a group for his History and Splendors of Paris, Part 2 class.

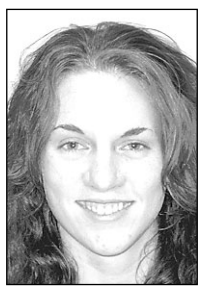
Sheila Hart, instructor of nursing will lead a group of nursing students to London to study the origins of modern nursing, and Kelly Larson, assistant professor of communications, will take six members of Southern's forensics team to Madrid. The team will compete in the International Forensics Association tournament, which the team won in 2002.

Editor's Column

Sex only belongs within marriage

Virginity isn't dead.

I know this isn't a popular topic, but someone has to stand up for the truth. Premarital sex is not a recreational activity. It's not just something to do when you're bored or lonely. It's not meant to build your self-confidence. Sex is more than a physical act. It's more than a combination of firing neurons. Sex cannot be undone. Sex is strictly a benefit of marriage.



Melissa Dunson
Diversions Editor

I've heard people justify premarital sex by saying you have to try out a physical relationship before you decide if you want to commit to it. It's like the 30-day, money-back guarantee on infomercial merchandise.

Thank you very much, but I don't think I like having the combination of my body, soul and emotions compared to a blender or cheesy exercise equipment. What happens when someone decides they want to return the merchandise? Rejection sucks.

At the risk of sounding cliché, sex is a sacred thing. It's the total joining of two people's bodies, minds, emotions that cannot be undone when the attraction ends.

Life isn't like "Friends" where everyone can sleep with everyone else and still be comfortably close buddies. When you sleep with someone, your body makes a promise whether you do or not.

Sex is not an accident. It doesn't just happen. It's not a stage every teenager has to go through, and it's certainly not a lesson that people just need to learn the hard way. Sex is a natural thing, but appropriate when in the right context.

Both are impulses, acted on without thinking. Premarital sex isn't a runaway train that we exercise no control over. It's a conscious decision to use and be used.

Sex is a benefit of marriage. Marriage is hard sometimes, but one of the wonderful things about it is the sexual freedom. Here's a news flash for you: if you're not mature enough to get married, you're not mature enough to have sex. You can't responsibly have one without the other.

I'm not saying waiting is easy, but good things never are. In the end, premarital sex is a horrendously selfish act that hurts you, your partner and a future spouse.

If you don't care, you should. It's a precious thing that people are giving away to anyone who acts even remotely interested.

To those who say I'm simply forcing my personal opinion or moral standard on others I assert that truth is not subjective. The world does not exist in grayscale. Some things are just right or wrong.

Melissa Dunson is the Diversions Editor of The Chart. *Her opinions are her own and don't necessarily reflect those of* The Chart *staff.*

MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY — JOPLIN

THE CHART

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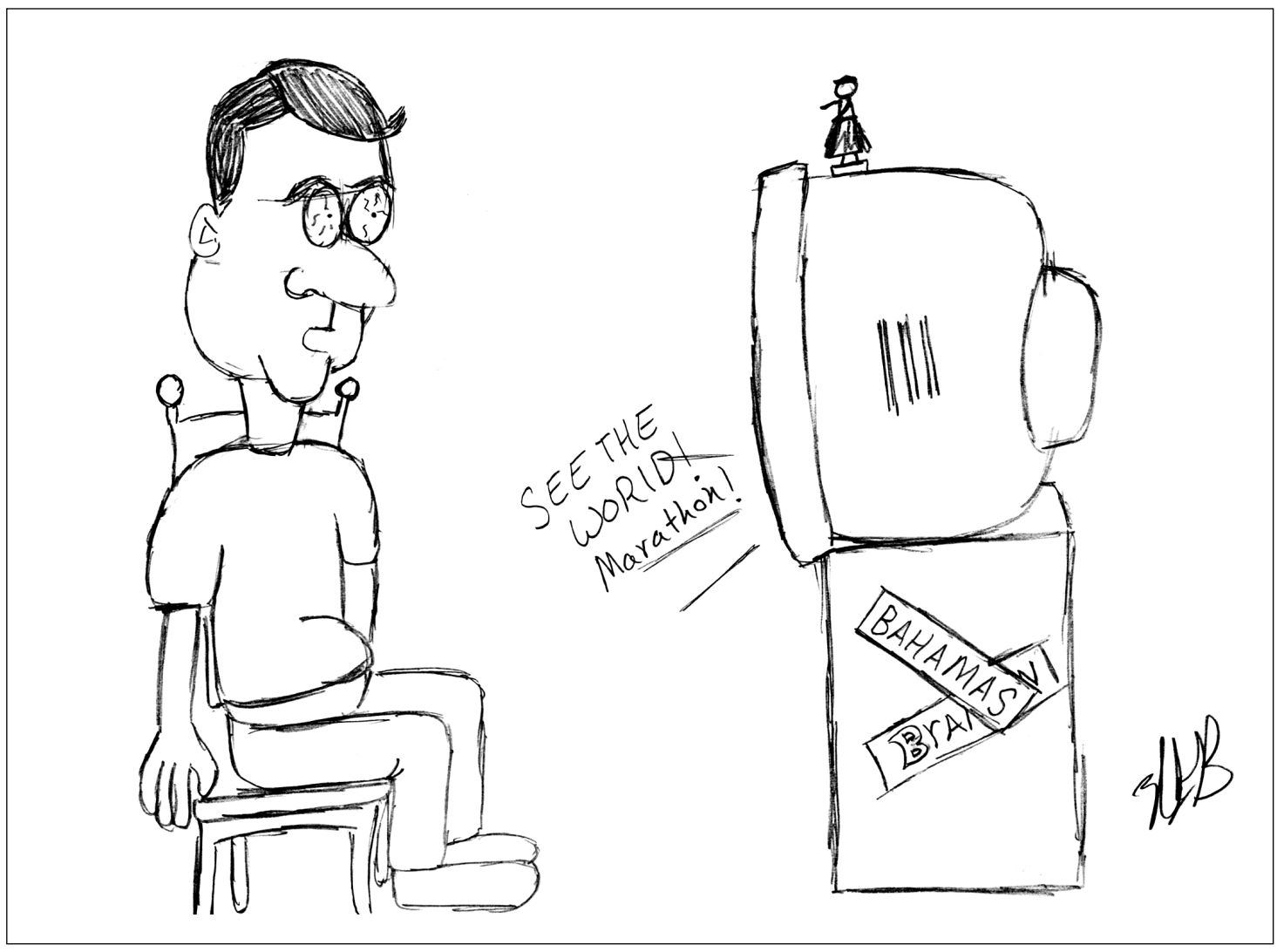
The Chart, the newspaper of Missouri Southern State University-Joplin, is published weekly, except during holidays and examination periods, from August through May by students in communications as a laboratory experience. Views expressed do not represent the opinions of the administration, faculty or the student body.

Nate Billings is the International Editor for The Chart.
The opinions reflected in his cartoon don't necessarily reflect those of The Chart *Staff*

Letters to the Editor Policy

Letters to the editor must be signed originals and include the writer's address and phone number for verification, as well as class rank and major. Letters should not exceed 300 words. *The Chart* reserves the right to edit or refuse letters on the basis of length, clarity, accuracy and liability. Letters will be chosen for publication by *The Chart* editors according to space considerations.



Expand horizons on break

Chart Opinion

Students should take advantage of their spring break vacation. How do we propose you do that?

Take a lovely vacation, perhaps to Springfield or even to Branson. For those feeling adventurous, head to another country or state.

We encourage those traveling abroad to take advantage of their international experience. Don't just see the sights, take time to enjoy the small things about a new culture, the buildings, the cars and the people. Challenge yourself to not eat at an American restaurant during the duration of your visit. Try not to draw attention to yourself and try to blend in. How many times will you have an opportunity like this?

For those of you staying here or traveling home, we encourage you to take advantage as well. Don't spend all of your time in front of the TV — do something.

If you are not traveling overseas, you can still enjoy yourself in the states. There are various sites you can visit in and around the town you live. If you want to be adventurous, try traveling outside the state and enjoy the splendors of other places such as Washington, D.C., where you can experience how our country's capital started.

Despite our suggestions, our hope for Missouri Southern students is simply that they enjoy themselves. However, we do want you to be responsible and safe.

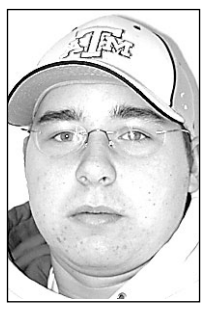
Take it in at full throttle, throwing caution to the wind. Being a college student only lasts for a short time, so take advantage of this time, and have fun.

Campus Voice **BY NANCY HIGHT-MORRIS**

What are you planning to do for spring break?

"Catch up on house cleaning and cooking meals two weeks ahead of time and hopefully [get some] rest."

Katia Marques
Senior
Psychology
Major



"Going to Texas to watch the Big 12 conference championship tournament and root on the Jayhawks."

Geoff Pitts
Freshman
Business Finance
Major

"Being a mother of two, real-life stuff."

Tracey Overton
Junior
Elementary Education
Major

"Taking my kids to Branson."

Bill Dye
Sophomore
CIS
Major

"Work and homework."

Debby Ballweber
Freshman
Accounting
Major

Editor's Column

Greyhound bus trip mauls travel experience

I love the dogs but dislike the buses.

Riding on a Greyhound bus was the worst experience in the entire world.

Jessica MacIntosh
Online Editor

OK, here's the gist of the story.

It was Thanksgiving break, and the only way for me to go home was by bus, because it was going to be too expensive to fly out of Joplin Regional Airport.

Instead of riding home in my roommate's car, which was going to be a four-hour trip, the trip by Greyhound bus was going to take six stinking hours.

My final destination was Lambert-St. Louis International Airport.

After the trip had taken so long, I grabbed my things and started to exit the bus. Just then, the driver yelled at me to go back on. Before I could say anything to her, she continued to yell; she did not bother to look at my ticket.

The driver told me I was supposed to have transferred at Fort Leonard Wood; the ticket said nothing about a transfer.

The worst part of the trip was riding all the way to downtown St. Louis, the horrible part of the city.

The Greyhound Web site says traveling by bus is considered the safest mode of transportation. Considering some of the people you ride with, that statement could be taken another way. Some of the people on board were quite scary.

Greyhound has more than 2,400 buses running, and in 2002, the latest available figures, according to the Web site, 23.3 million passengers have ridden on the buses. This number compares to 2001 when the carrier had 25 million passengers.

Greyhound seems to be losing more passengers than gaining. It's hard to say what the number of passengers is in 2003. Whatever the number, hopefully it is less than the 23.3 million.

In a complaint of the day for June 30, 2001, on www.complaints.com, a gentleman was traveling between Philadelphia and New York. When he boarded his Greyhound bus, the driver entered and demanded 10 seats were needed.

Instead of asking those people who boarded last if they would like to give up their seats or asking for volunteers, the driver handed out tickets she had just collected to passengers including the gentleman. He said the driver might have done this on her own decisions or on prejudices.

There is no information on if the gentleman has received a message back from Greyhound. Finally, another thing Greyhound lacks in is security.

Because of 9-11, there was more security.

The company Web site said there are more security guards and surveillance cameras, and there are random searches of passengers' carry-on baggage in more than 30 locations.

There definitely was no security at the station in Joplin or in St. Louis. The word "unsafe" comes to mind.

There was no one searching baggage at all.

Like I said before, the whole trip was a nightmare, and I will stick with adopting the dogs rather than riding an unsafe bus.

Jessica MacIntosh is the Online Editor of The Chart. *Her opinions are her own and don't necessarily reflect those of* The Chart *staff.*

We enjoy letters.
If you have an opinion on something we wrote, send it in.

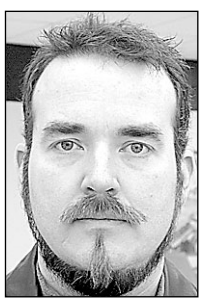
chart@mssu.edu

Oxford gives OK to University trip

BY NATE BILLINGS
International Editor

Since 1987, students at Missouri Southern have had the opportunity to explore the British culture at Oxford University.

Beginning this semester, Southern has a new contract with Oxford. The contract allows the University to send students directly there without going through another institution.



Dr. Karl Schmidt
Director of International Programs, SDSU

Before, students had to enroll in the program in conjunction with a program at Florida State University in Tallahassee.

The program is the oldest study abroad opportunity at Southern. Any student with a 3.5 grade-point average is allowed to enroll.

Currently, 13 students are enrolled to go to Oxford. Because there is a minimum requirement for enrollment of 20 students, the University asked South Dakota State University in Brookings if the institution would consider sending some of its students with the Southern students.

"I think it's a great opportunity," said Dr. Karl Schmidt, director of international programs at SDSU.

Students going on the trip agree.

"It's something everyone should experience," said Kasi Bourous, senior history major.

Schmidt said he cannot advertise the program at SDSU yet because the Board of Regents for the South Dakota universities has not approved the request.

"I'm predicting that they'll approve it," Schmidt said.

Schmidt is a former history and international studies instructor at Southern. After he accepted his new position at SDSU, he stayed in touch with Dr. Chad Stebbins, director of the Institute of International Studies.

The two then worked out an agreement between the Universities to send students to Oxford after Southern gained its own program.

Students will spend 19 days in England during the months of June and July, but are allowed to stay longer or come earlier if they would like. The classes offered are either a J.R.R. Tolkien literature class or an Estates and Gardens history class.

Dr. Doris Walters, professor of English, will be the faculty member allowed to go free through Oxford.

"I've had good experiences with international studying," Walters said.

She studied in England before and has a daughter living on the edge of London.

"I would like to be around the students," she said. "I'm looking forward to being a student again."

Stebbins, Schmidt and Walters agree the trip is worthwhile.

"I'd like to see the students come back with a new perspective on the world," Walters said.

Community members, alumni and anyone interested in joining the trip can contact the Institute at 625-9736.

Haiti riots stop mission trip

BY NATE BILLINGS
International Editor

There may be violence in Haiti, but at Missouri Southern, peace is the mission of one group.

For the past two years, the Wesley Foundation has gone to Haiti as part of a mission trip.

However, this year the trip has been canceled due to the rebel uprisings.

The missionaries see the uprising as good for the people.

"There is no mass media," said Eric Lotz, campus ministry leader. "A person can promise [in politics] anything."

Lotz said he has been to Haiti with two groups of students, once during a local election.

During the election, the streets were closed to motorized vehicles. He said it made it difficult for the people to get into the city and vote.

Lotz said the people mostly accepted the group.

"There is mixed reaction," he said. "The people in the church, they love us."

Jennifer Lotz, Eric's wife and fellow campus minister, also went on the trip.

"It's up in the air right now it's hard to know," Jennifer said.

She said the experience changed her outlook on her home.

"It's very much a blessing to come back," she said. "We take for granted so many things we have."

She said the people in Haiti are friendly, and she wants others to know that God loves them.

"He (God) just loves them as much as he loves us," she said.

Eric agrees.

"I consider the people in Haiti to be my brothers and sisters," he said.

Annette Cross, junior secondary education major, went to Haiti in May and June of 2003. She too sees the ousting of Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide as a good thing for the people.

"[There is] so much corruption in the country," Cross said. "I'm glad to see that something is being done for the people."

She said the government was oppressing to the people and keeps secret police in the towns to listen to the people should they speak out against the government. She said the government was not like the people she met on the trip.

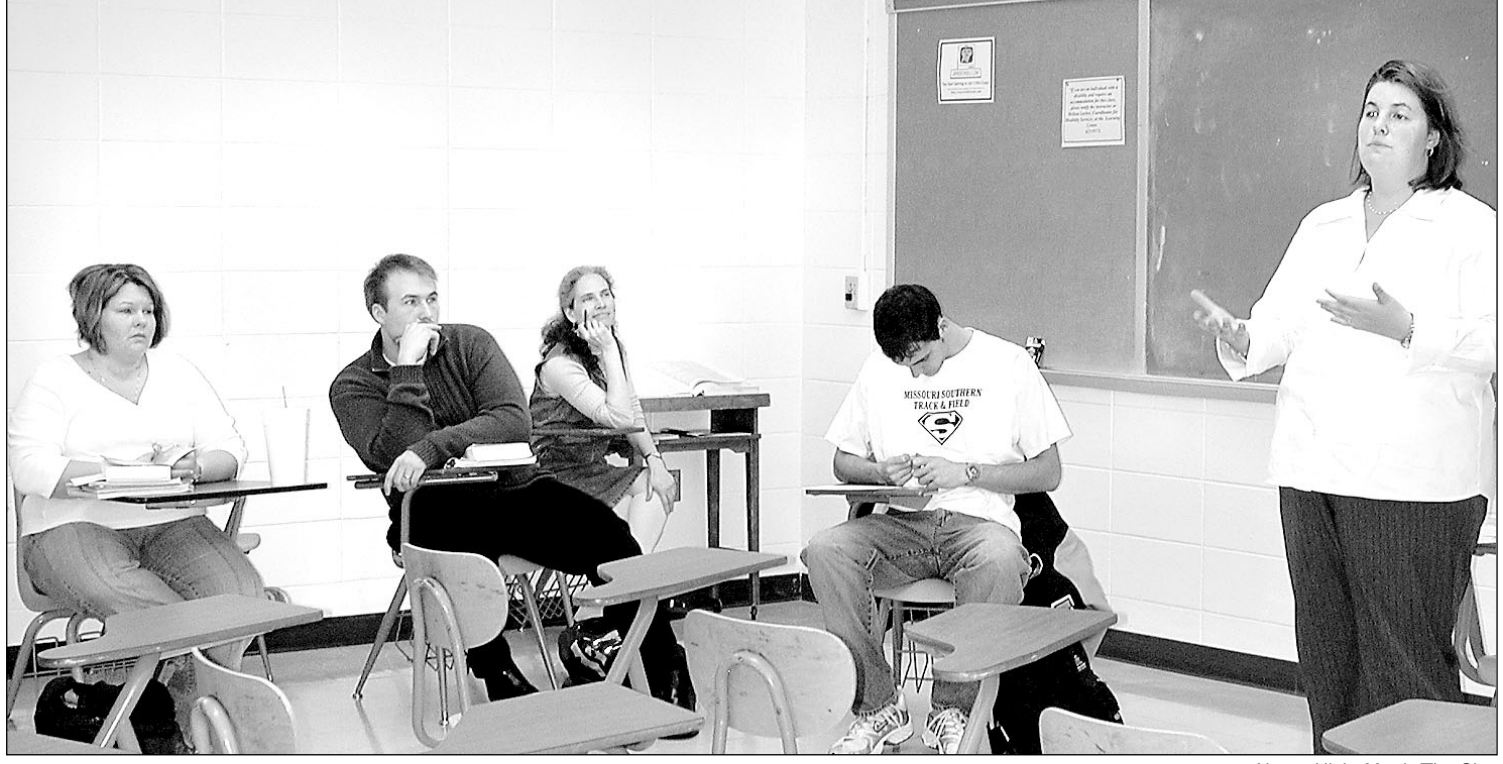
"The Haitians are truly loving people," Cross said. "It may seem brutal (the uprisings), but they do it to protect their families."

The groups went to Cap Haitian, Haiti and worked in the local church. Eric preached a revival during the week the group stayed and then preached during the following Sunday's sermon.

The Lotz's and Cross agreed the experience is a life-changing event.

"It's something you don't understand unless you see it for yourself," Cross said.

PEACE CORPS



Nancy Hight-Morris/The Chart

During her visit to campus, Jamie Diatta, recruiter for the Chicago regional Peace Corps, spoke to some classes on March 2. Her speeches focused on specific ways the Corps could use the expertise of the subjects taught in each class.

SOUTHERN LIFELONG LEARNING

Eight-week Courses

ENROLL NOW!

You can enroll in these courses anytime between now and the first day of classes, March 8. They are on video tape (VHS) and are to be completed by May 10. All lectures are contained on these tapes, students must have a VCR and access to the Internet. Tapes may be picked up in WH #116, or the student can contact Wiseman-N@mssu.edu with their correct mailing address and the tapes will be mailed. **Note: Financial Aid may not be available for these courses.**

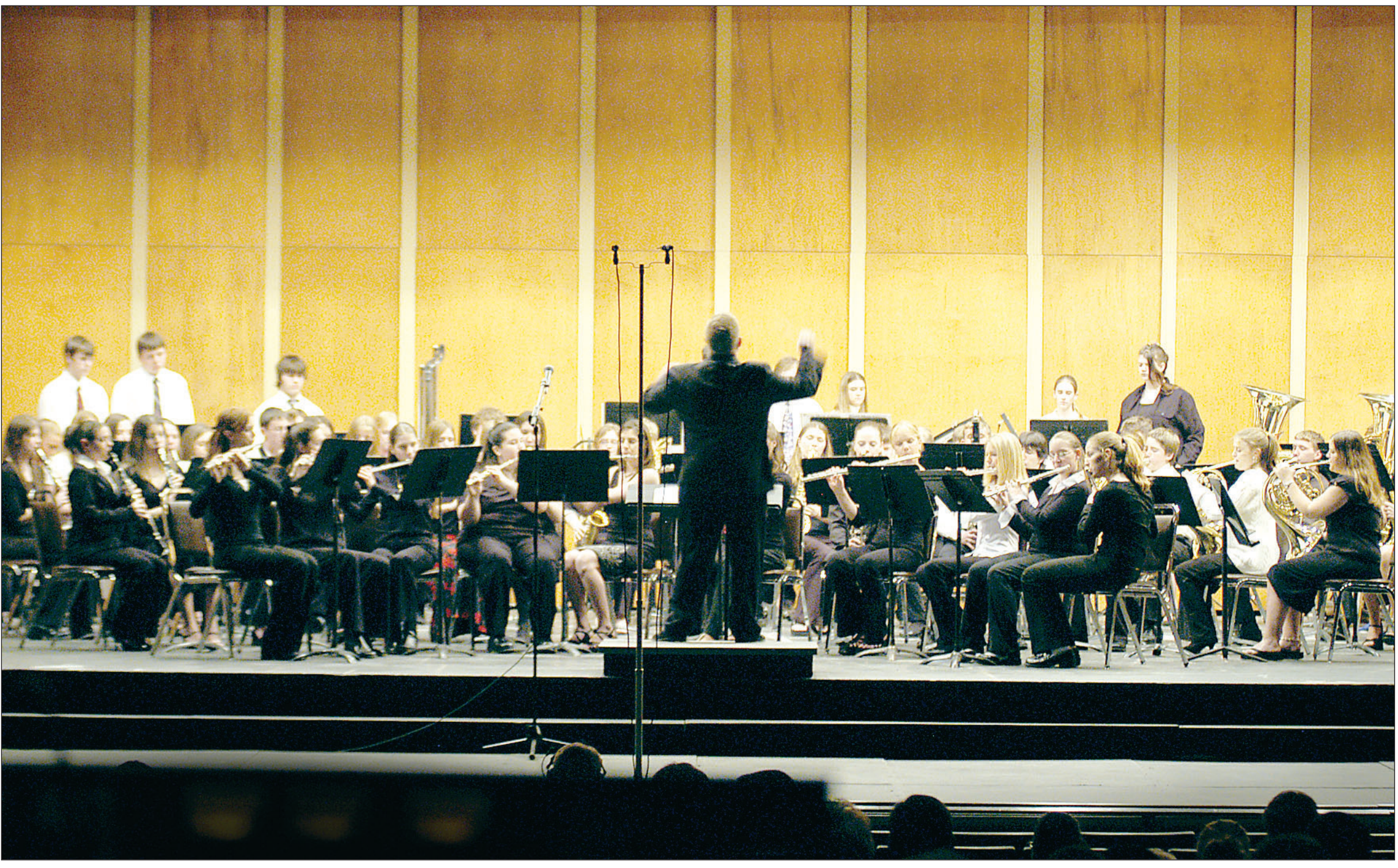
Line #7111 **Math 20: Beginning Algebra** **3 cr hrs**
Instructor: Patrick Cassens (Cassens-P@mssu.edu)
Operations on signed numbers, linear equations and inequalities, systems of linear equations, polynomial arithmetic. Students are required to have a computer with Internet access with the same requirements published for Internet courses. Exams will require students to come to campus or arrange a proctor.

Line #7112 **Phys 100: Fundamentals of Physical Science** **5 cr hrs**
Instructor: John Summerfield (Summerfield-J@mssu.edu)
Basic concepts in the fields of physics, chemistry, geology, and astronomy will be presented as time permits. Prerequisite: MATH 030 with a grade of "C" or better. Exams will require students to come to campus or arrange a proctor.

Line #7113 **Psy 120: College Orientation** **1 cr hr**
Instructor: Kelly Wilson (Wilson-K@mssu.edu)
A requirement for all incoming freshmen. Provides a small group setting for open communication between students in an informal situation. Students are required to have a computer with Internet access with the same requirements published for Internet course, and a word processor, prefer Microsoft Word. All work is through the Internet including exams.

Line #7114 **TH 110: Theatre Appreciation** **3 cr hrs**
Instructor: Sam Claussen (Claussen-S@mssu.edu)
Introduction to theatre as a communicative and fine art emphasizing collaborative efforts of playwright, artistic director, designer, actor and crew. Students are required to have a computer with Internet access with the same requirements published for Internet courses. Students are required to see two live plays during the semester. In addition to the rental textbook, a purchase workbook is required.

Diversions



Adam Fast/The Chart

The Carl Junction Concert Band performed its first pops concert in Southern's history. A pops concert is defined as a performance where the band plays music the audience recognizes.

Adam Fast/The Chart

Joe Thomas, junior secondary education major, performs "Rhapsody in Blue," as part of the orchestra's concert Feb. 26.

Symphonic concert wows audience

By Philip Martin
Executive Editor

Taylor Auditorium was popping Feb. 26.

The Missouri Southern Symphonic Orchestra played its first pops concert Feb. 26. Carl Junction High School's concert band performed first.

Rusty Raymond, director of bands, said the concert fulfills different purposes for the band.

"Number one, it gives our students an opportunity to learn more literature," Raymond said.

He said the concert also served as a recruiting tool for area high school students who had the chance to play on stage before the symphonic band.

"Those high school students can envision what it's like to be a performer here at Missouri Southern," Raymond said. "And parents can see the transition of what students in a high school band sound like and what they sound like when they progress and become a university group."

CJHS's Concert Band performed before Southern's symphonic band. CJHS performed songs that included "Under an Irish Sky" and "Shenandoah."

Raymond said Southern chose CJHS to perform during the concert based on several reasons.

"Number one, it's one of the area schools we try to recruit from, and number two, two of our graduates teach there," Raymond said. "Like I mentioned to the audience during the concert, we want our graduates to know that after they leave here, that the University is still here for them and still supports them."

Audience members enjoyed both bands during the concert.

"It was very well played," said Sean Wilson, senior elementary education major. "They put a lot of work into it, and they did really good."

Wilson said it is a good idea for the University to hold a pops concert, because it gives the symphonic band a chance to "warm up" before its big concert at the end of the semester. Raymond defined a pops concert as a performance where the band plays music the audience recognizes.

"The music that we chose, 'Rhapsody in Blue,' is familiar to almost everyone," he said. "The same goes for 'Bugler's Holiday.' It tends to be more lighter style music than what we would normally program for regular spring concerts."

"Rhapsody in Blue," written by George Gershwin, featured Joel Thomas, junior secondary education major, on piano along with Britney Parker, junior secondary education major, on the clarinet during the opening solo.

"I really got into 'Rhapsody in Blue,'" Wilson said. "It's a good chart. A lot of stuff was added with the piano."

The band also performed selections from the musical *Chicago* that included "My Own Best Friend," "Razzle" and "All That Jazz."

Raymond said he is not sure why Southern never had a pops concert before but plans to make the concert a yearly event.

More than boy band, pop group brings positive lyrics to area

By Melissa Dunson
Diversions Editor

Upcoming boy band, Jericho Road, discovered the positive power of music

Four young men from various areas of the country just happened to converge on the unsuspecting Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah.

Friendships formed and the musical talent fostered there resulted in the formation of the band Jericho Road in August 2001 and, subsequently, an upcoming concert for the world-traveled artists at Joplin High School.

Jericho Road consists of Abe Mills, 31, St. Louis; Dave Kimball, 26, Salt Lake City; Bret Bryce, 27, Knoxville, Tenn.; and Justin Smith, 27, Parma, Idaho. All of the members play various musical instruments, but for concerts, they focus on harmonizing and upbeat dance moves.

"Dancing is a really important part of our show," Kimball said. "All throughout time, dancing has been a way for people to express themselves."

The hip-hop style dance moves has resulted in them being compared with popular boy band icon *NSYNC. The band uses a portion of each concert to parody various famous boy bands throughout history.

Musically the band resembles the harmonious sounds of BoyzIIMen.

"BoyzIIMen was a big role model for us," Kimball said. "We all listened to them when we were younger, and we even cover one of their songs during the show."

The band members think that unlike some other current pop artists, their concerts carry more musical meaning.

"You can dance at a club and our concert, but you take something away from our concert that lasts a lot longer than any club," Kimball said.

Mills described the band's message as "faith-centered music" and "faith with a message." The members define themselves as a contemporary Christian band and hope their music promotes a positive lifestyle.

"We want to give people an alternative to the negative influence of some of the music out there," Smith said. "Our music is so much more meaningful."

One of the motivations of their message was to unite families through their music.

"A lot of times, parents don't want to go to concerts with their kids," Kimball said. "But they can both (parents and children) come and have fun. It doesn't seem funny for a whole family to show up to one of our concerts. People always come and have a great time and leave with a positive message."

Overall, the band believes it can powerfully influence someone through its music.

"If you dwell on good morals, it will give you a lot more substance as a person," Smith said.

Jericho Road's positive message has paid off. Their self-titled release sold more than 10,000 albums in the first week. The band just released a fourth album, a new five-song EP titled *Deeper Still*. The group's most popular song, "Finding My Way Back To You," made it into the top five most requested songs on St. Louis radio station KXEN. Other honors bestowed on the band include a Listener's Choice Award for Album of the Year (True North) and Group Artist of the Year in 2003.

Special to The Chart

Members of the singing group, Jericho Road, will perform March 18 at Joplin High School. The band's style resembles Top 40 music and has been compared to pop icons *NSYNC and BoyzIIMen.

Well-known Christian songwriters like Scott Kripayne and Steve Siler have contributed to the band's works while Jericho Road returns the favor to the music industry by writing songs for artists like Point of Grace and True Vibe.

For information on the band, check out the Web site at www.jerichoroadmusic.com.

The concert is scheduled for 7 p.m. March 13 at Joplin High School.

Tickets range in price from $5 to $12 and family rates are available for $25. To reserve seating, call 888-624-9386 or 800-466-6513.

World touring pop group, Jericho Road, prepares for a concert at Joplin High School. For information, read the story.

Funny Thing About Life...

DAVID HAUT
Public Forum Editor

I shouldn't be admitting this, but I love infomercials. I do. The bulk of my TV viewing is late-night infomercials. I wish I were joking.

I was watching TV late one night, watching Ron Popiel peel potatoes with his miracle *Rotato*. I thought to myself, I think that would come in handy. And guess what? I got a free gift too, a potato julienne slicer. I've used it once, to peel an apple, just to see if it worked.

I have a Quick Slice, a Euro-Sealer, a Safety Can and a George Foreman grill. When I was 13-years-old, I went up to my mom asking for a Ronco Food Dehydrator, and gave her the toll free number. I told her, call in the next 10 minutes and they'll deduct one payment.

I tried to order a Miracle Blade 3, but my credit card was maxed out. I debated with myself, should I get the Bowflex or the Total Gym?

I use OxyClean and Orange Glo. I have the Hands Free Cell Phone Car Kit and the easy bacon maker. I've thought to myself, I want a vacuum sealer that can crush 48 cans.

I have a pancake flipper and a Bose Wave Radio. I have a Grip Wrench Pro, but it's still in the box.

I have a Handy Stitch, but I can't figure out how to get the thread in the bobbin. And, I think I was the first 18-year-old to buy Super Blue Stuff.

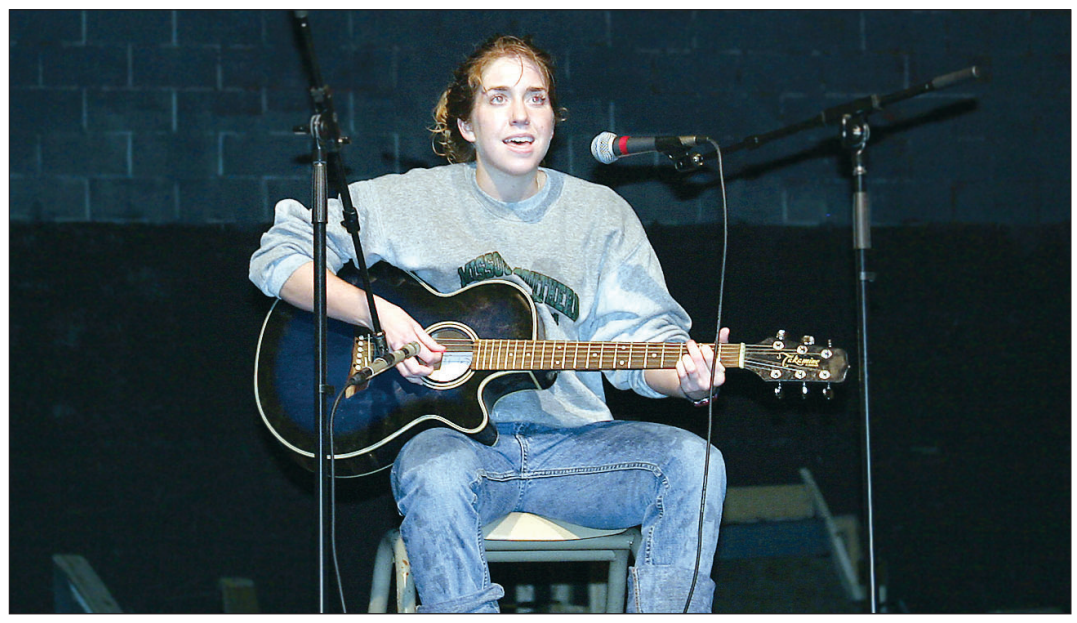
I am a retailer's dream. Why? Because I'm lazy. I like cool stuff that makes my life simple. I could really use a chicken roaster. I want a juicer that can suck oil from a peanut.

I think the place they always get me is on the free gift. It's always the same now, but they used to be pretty good. Now they always give you the EZ Slicer with everything you buy. It doesn't make sense. Why do I want a slicer with my Super Shami Car Wash Kit?

I always love how they try and sell the products by making them safe for kids. Yeah, kids will love the flip fold, for the first week. What they'll really love is a vacuum that can pick up a bowling ball.

I love infomercials. I love The Sharper Image. I would love to be rid of this addiction.

David Haut, Public Forum Editor, writes a weekly humor column for The Chart. *His opinions are his own and don't necessarily reflect those of* The Chart *staff members.*



Nancy Hight-Morris/The Chart

Sarah Wallace, freshman secondary education and Spanish major, practices for the talent show.

Students prepare performances for annual talent competition

BY WINTER WHITE
Staff Writer

Ladies and gentlemen, children of all ages, it's that time again. The annual Missouri Southern Talent Show is back and ready for action with a whole new line-up.

Julie Blackford, director of student activities, said there are some changes ahead for this year's talent show with the addition of an announcer and more competition among contestants due to more student interest.

There are about 21 students on the roster to perform, compared to last year's homecoming talent show of about 12-13 contenders. There will, however, be a dress rehearsal that all contestants will be required to attend prior to the show.

"I'm really excited about this year's show," Blackford said. "We have a professional emcee that will be running the show this year; her name is Alexandria McHale, so it should be a lot of fun, and this is a really good opportunity to showcase some of the student talent we have and for students to see their student activity fee at work."

There are individual and group categories with prizes of $200 for first place, $150 for second, $100 for third and $50 for fourth.

"We're hoping to get people from the community to judge," Black ford said. "While there are a lot of singers, we also have some unique talent. There is a mime show planned and some stand-up comedy."

Last year's first-place winner Jason Edgar, senior speech communication major, believes he has a good chance of winning again this year.

"I plan on doing a comedic interpretation of the complete history of America in 5 minutes," Edgar said. "So, you'll see quite a few faces come up."

Other competitors also plan to liven up the audience.

"I have something planned that is guaranteed to get the audience pumped up," said Herbert Brown sophomore special education major, about his anticipated vocal medley. "I love to sing and practice every chance I get. I sing in church and at a retirement home every week. I am not really in it for the money but to be around other singers and see other talent. I just want to have fun, and make somebody else happy — to see somebody smile."

The show will be held at 7 p.m. Wednesday, in Taylor Auditorium, for those interested in attending.

Famous magician proves himself *Fearless* on DVD

His tricks are flawless. The reactions he gets are priceless. The man is fearless.

In his DVD *Fearless*, David Blaine performs tricks and illusions which appeal to the eye and dazzle the mind. Blaine bites a quarter in half, levitates and helps a beggar win the lottery. Blaine is truly a master of his craft.

Blaine began his magic career at an early age. After doing street magic for years, Blaine became connected with ABC, who after an interview, immediately began work on his first TV special. Years later, Blaine is world famous.

The DVD is a compilation of his first three television specials, "Street Magic", "Magic Man" and "Frozen in Time."

His first two specials focus strictly on "Street Magic," Blaine's unique style of Magic performed on the street, completely surrounded by real people going about their everyday lives.

Blaine is truly a showman here. He demonstrates his skill without blinking an eye, and is never prideful for things he performs. Just sitting in front of the TV, I was amazed.

While a few of his card tricks and illusions can be learned by anyone, his style is fast-paced and unpredictable. His skill with a deck of cards is uncanny and rivaled by few.

Blaine also travels to South America, eager to show a different culture something it had never seen before — playing cards. Unable to speak the language, he uses his magic as a method of communication.

Review Corner

DAVID HAUT
Public Forum Editor

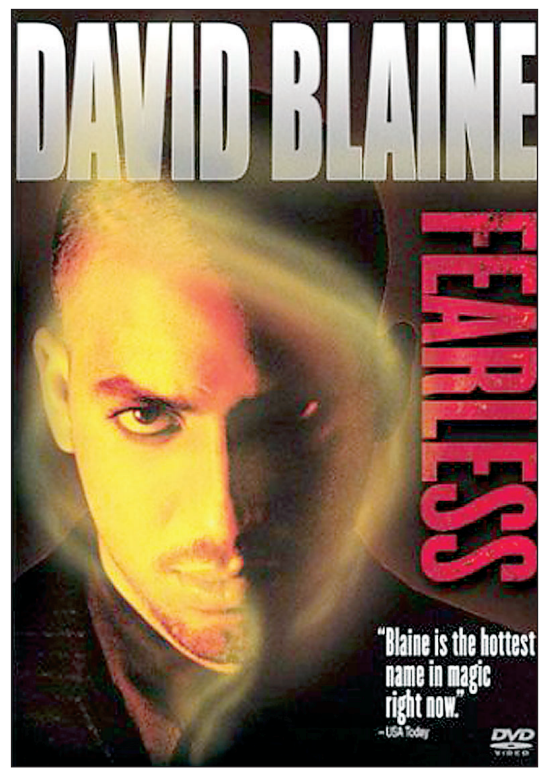
"Frozen in Time" chronicles Blaine's preparation for a stunt: being frozen in a large block of ice, with nothing to eat. He survived for 61 straight hours with no sleep, living only on water. He practiced sleeping standing up. He sat in pools of ice water. He consulted physicians and physical trainers. After three days, Blaine emerged from the ice delirious. This special also includes some street magic not seen on his other specials.

Along with Blaine's three specials, the DVD includes unseen content cut from the originals, as well as newspaper articles about his ice-cube stunt.

While some of his tricks seem outdated or amateur, he will amaze you one way or another. This is a DVD you will want to rewind and watch in slow-motion, just to see how he did it.

This DVD is a great diversion from mainstream movies.

If you're looking to be amazed, or just something different, I recommend *David Blaine: Fearless.*



Special to The Chart

In Fearless, world-renowned magician David Blaine combines three of his most popular TV specials into one unbelievable DVD. Blaine has been compared with Houdini for some of his most outrageous stunts like standing in a block of ice for three days, but is more known for his slight of hand skills with cards.

Group takes time to reflect, prepare for upcoming events

BY DAVID HAUT
Public Forum Editor

Hard work and planning allowed Missouri Southern's Campus Activities Board to do something it haven't done in a while — relax.

CAB conducted their weekly meeting in an informal manner on March 3 to discuss some last-minute planning for next week's Spring Break Blitz activities.

"This was a team building meeting," said Julie Blackford, Director of Student Activities.

Next week's activities include a game show, spike night and the talent show. Spike night activities include sumo wrestling suits, an inflatable obstacle course, laser tag, a moving surfboard, open basketball and volleyball and scuba diving lessons. Free T-shirts, food and prizes will be given away throughout the evening. Spike night begins at 9 p.m. Thursday.

The Think Fast game show will take place at noon in the Billingsly Student Center lounge.

The talent show, headlined by up-and-coming comedienne Alexandria McHale as the master of ceremonies, will take place at 7 p.m. Wednesday. The first prize for the event is $200.

Terry Levy, junior criminal justice/pre-law major, announced the "get your roll on" skating party is still planned for March 31. A venue has not yet been determined, although Levy makes a strong recommendation for Silver Wheels in Joplin, due to it's large size.

Final arrangements for the skate night will be announced at a later date. The party will be free to students.

Also discussed in the meeting was the possibility of CAB being partial sponsors for a trip to Kansas City too see a Russian orchestra, in connection with the Russia Semester.

The concept of bringing reality shows to Southern is still in the planning phase. Nothing has been named at this time.

CAB's weekly meetings at 2 p.m. Wednesdays in the student activities office on the second floor BSC.

CAB
Campus Activities Board

Area Events

If your organization has an event you would like publicized, call Melissa Dunson at 625-9311.

5 *Hidalgo* and *Starsky & Hutch* open at the Northstar 14 Theaters.

Hammer Sisters and No Apparent Reason concert @ 7:30 @ The Emporium in Carthage.

6 Glory Days "Live Music Cafe" @ 8 p.m @ Glory Days Music.

The Coventry Sacrifice and Peacechurch @ 7 p.m. @ The Office in Columbus.

7 Karaoke from 9 p.m.-1 a.m. @ Murphy's Irish Pub.

The Vagina Monologues @ 7:30 p.m. @ The Vandivort Center Theatre in Springfield.

8 BSU Joy Explosion @ 7 p.m.

Tosca Opera @ 7:30 p.m. @ Juanita K. Hammons Hall in Springfield.
CAB Talent Show @ 7 p.m. @ Taylor Hall Auditorium.

9 Kaki King and Keb' Mo' @ 7 p.m. @ Uptown Theatre in Kansas City.

Think Fast Game Show in BSC second floor Lounge.

10 General all-ages extreme sports session @ 3 p.m. @ The Bridge.

Karaoke @ 10 p.m. @ The Green Room.

CAB meeting @ 2 p.m. @ 2nd floor Billingsly.

Bloody Sunday concert @ 6:30 p.m. @ The Bridge.

11 Krazy Karaoke @ 9 p.m. @ Champ's Bar and Grill

Campus Crusade for Christ @ 7:30 p.m. @ the Student Life Center.

Spike Night with free food, prizes and games @ 9 p.m. @ Young Gymnasium.

Weird News:

Naked man imitates statue of Christ

RIO DE JANEIRO — Nudity might be all the rage at the world famous mardi gras party in Rio de Janeiro, but an Australian tourist has learned it's not appropriate beside the city's landmark Christ the Saviour statue.

The young man has been charged with staging an "obscene act" and was arrested with a group of friends who police say incited him to bare all and pose with outstretched arms underneath the 30-meter open-armed statue.

Witnesses say the tourists seemed drunk, but police could not confirm that. The tourists will be freed after signing documents obliging them to appear in court or be barred from entering Brazil again.

http://www.abc.net.au

Student beaten for drunkenness

BENGAL — Students of Sikkim Manipal Institute of Technology will boycott their first session examinations beginning tomorrow to protest against the thrashing of a first-year student, allegedly by teachers.

The student and a friend allegedly tried to sneak onto campus drunk when they were discovered by guards who seized their identity cards. The guards contacted the student welfare officer who slapped and abused the student. When he protested, the student was taken to the teachers' quarters and allegedly stripped, tied to a pole and thrashed by a group of 17 teachers.

Students are assembling night and day in protest and demanding the resignation of the welfare officer and an apology from the teachers. The student says he wasn't drunk.

http://www.telegraphindia.com

SOUTHERN NEWS

Andy Tevis/The Chart

A two-vehicle collision occurred March 2 at the intersection of Newman Road and Southern View Drive. This intersection has been the sight of several accidents in the past year, including one covered in *The Chart*'s Nov. 21, 2003, issue.

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Chiropractic...
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Jason Kucma is a Third-Year student from Medford, NJ. He graduated from Ithaca College with a Bachelor's Degree in Exercise Physiology concentrating in Cardiac Rehabilitation.

"The only thing that has ever captured my attention was studying the human body. The more I learned in school, the more I needed to know. The most logical step for me was to become a Doctor of Chiropractic so I could truly help people".

Before making his decision to attend Logan, Jason visited nearly half of the chiropractic colleges in the United States. "Logan is in the perfect location in a safe, residential area. The Admissions staff are very friendly and helpful and the faculty are excellent."

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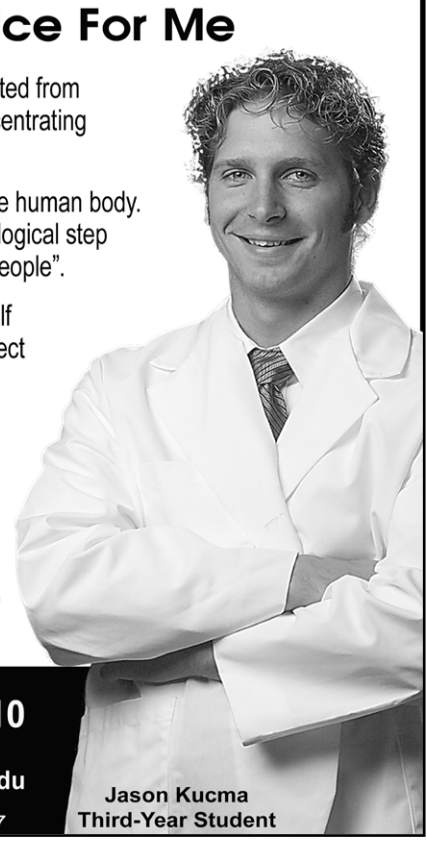

Jason Kucma
Third-Year Student

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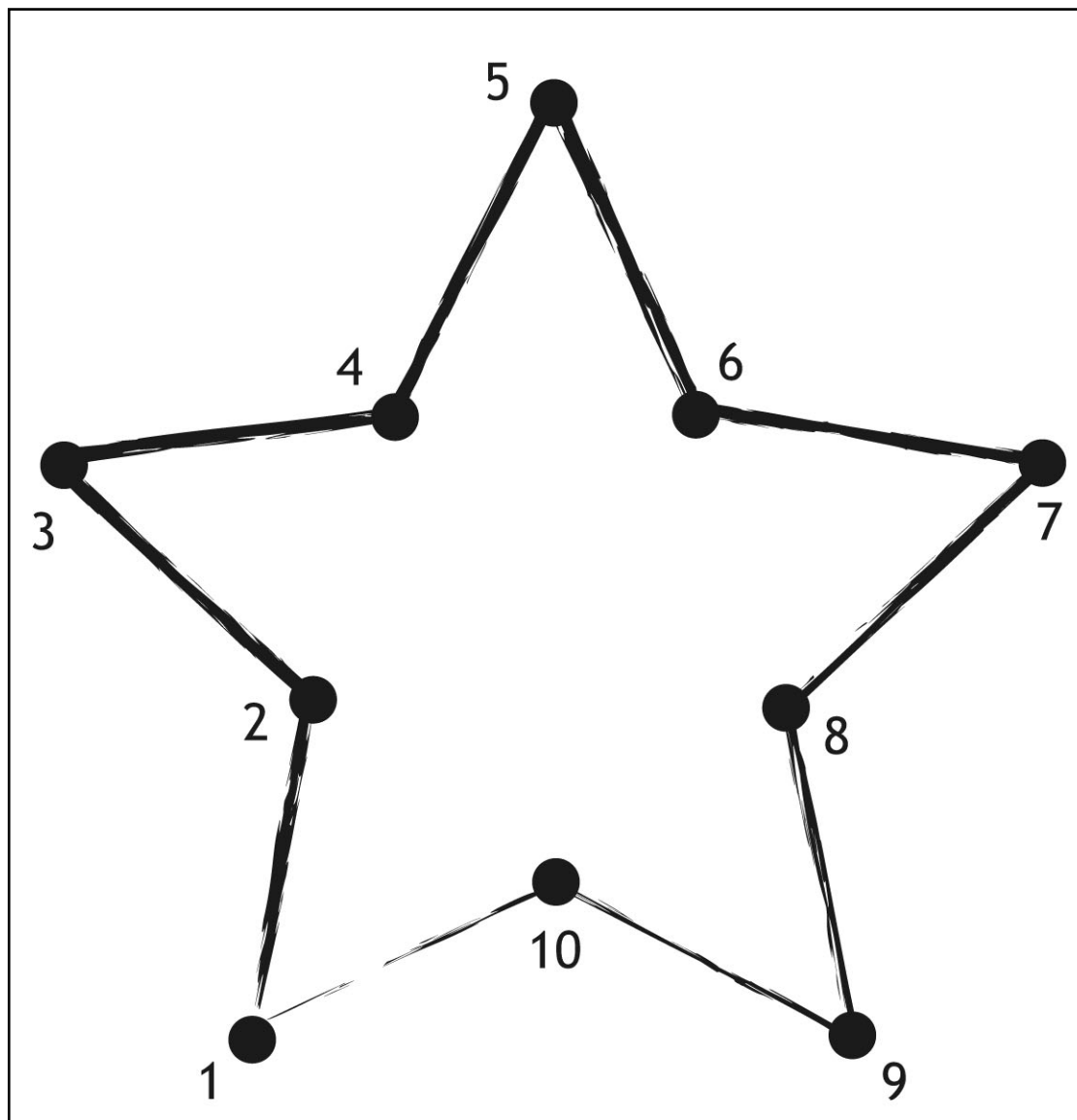

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SMILE:

From Page 1

"He wanted to touch people's lives."

And that's exactly what he did.

"He wanted people to be happy," Rosa said.

Dzidic, an exchange student from Croatia, said she and Josh spent a great deal of time together. Whether it was offering a ride, lending support or just being a good friend, he was always there for her.

For a majority of their relationship, they were inseparable. During semester break, Dzidic went home to Croatia. He flew to her home country to visit her.

"I appreciated every second I had with him," Dzidic said.

Although Dzidic is trying her best to completely focus on the time and the friendship she's had with Josh, she said it's still going to be hard. Some of the memories are going to hurt. Phone messages from Josh are still on her cell phone. A park bench in Croatia has their initials marked together.

"Even if I don't find anyone again at least I know I had true love," she said. "He taught me how to love."

J.J. Spurlin, assistant professor of criminal justice and Josh's adviser, said Josh would constantly visit him in his office.

"Every time he came in my office he always had a smile and a new story," Spurlin said. "I will really miss him."

Laura Pruitt, Josh's aunt, remembers Josh as a caring person.

"He would always call people and ask how they are doing," Pruitt said. "I'm going to miss that phone call."

Pruitt read a journal entry of Josh's from his time at a summer recreation program in Texas.

He was 15 years old at the time: "I like music, pretty ladies, bowling, my hair, my stereo and pretty ladies."

And it's that type of humor that Pruitt will always remember.

"He was always making you laugh," Pruitt said.

Dzidic said it's going to be hard for the next couple of months. She's graduating in May and she and Josh had always talked about the big day and how he was going to be there in the stands cheering her on.

"I don't know how I'm going to graduate," she said. "I knew he was going to be there."

Although graduation is going to be a difficult time for Dzidic, she said she was lucky to have been able to spend so much time with a person that touched her heart in so many ways. She said she's thankful for her relationship she had with Josh.

She knows he will still be there cheering for her on graduation day.

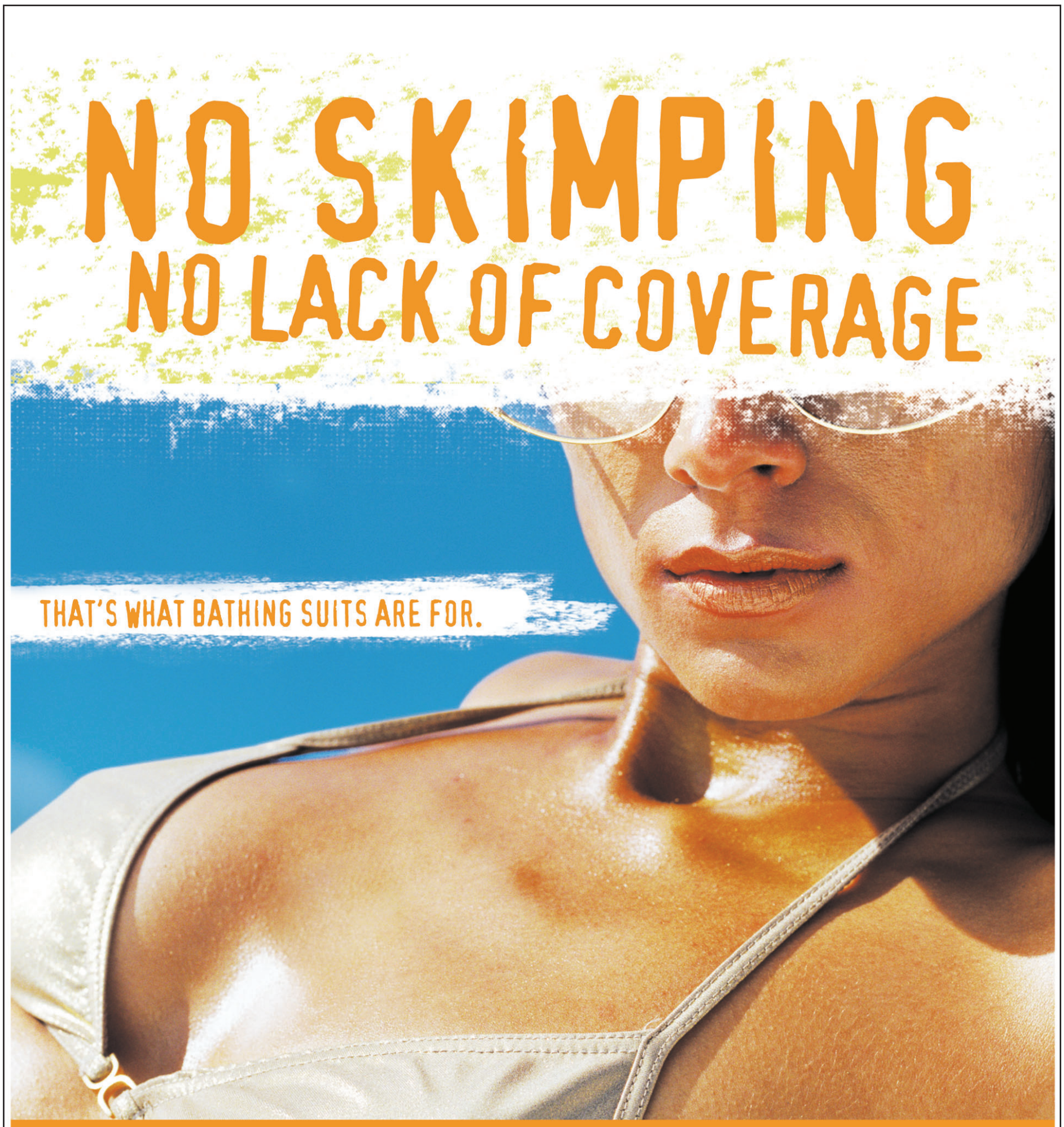
And that means the world to her.

"People who didn't know Josh missed out," she said. "He had the power to make everything all right and make you smile."

JOB TIME

Nancy Hight-Morris/The Chart

After gathering information from the Career Fair, Christine Rhoades, junior general studies major (right), talks with a recruiter from Freeman Health System.



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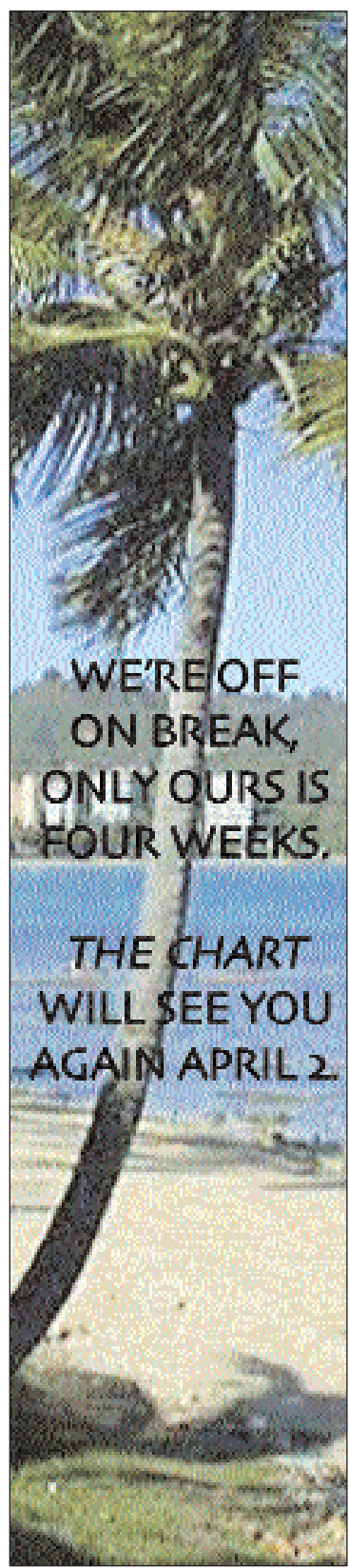

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STATE NEWS BRIEFS

Truman State alumni offer fellowship gift

Three faculty members of Truman State University were awarded $10,000 fellowships Feb. 17.

The fellowships come from a monetary gift from alumni Doris and Walker Allen.

The announcements were made in front of each faculty members' class by Truman President Barbara Dixon, Vice President for Academic Affairs Garry Gordon and Interim Vice President for University Advancement Kathy Riek.

Saint Louis instructor receives recognition

Norma Metheny, Ph.D., R.N., professor at Saint Louis University School of Nursing and the Dorothy A. Votsmier Endowed Chair in Nursing, will receive the 2004 Midwest Nursing Research Society Distinguished Contribution to Research in the Midwest award on Feb.29 at the Renaissance Grand Hotel in St. Louis.

Metheny's program of research focuses on promoting safe care for tube-fed patients. She has received 14-years of funding from the National Institute of Nursing Research to conduct a series of studies regarding bedside methods to determine feeding tube placement and to assess for aspiration.

SEMO Regents grant tenure to nine faculty

The Southeast Missouri State University Board of Regents granted tenure to nine faculty member's during a closed session meeting March 3.

The tenure designation will take effect with the 2004-2005 academic year. Faculty members receiving tenure in their respective departments were considered for the designation by their departmental tenure advisory committee, department chairperson, college tenure advisory committee, college dean and Provost Jane Stephens.

Sale of SMSU property faces capital approval

Southwest Missouri State University has signed a contract to sell a tract of land on South Scenic to Gardner Properties, L.L.C. for the appraised price of $740,000.

The sale is contingent upon approval of the Missouri General Assembly, as well as rezoning of the property.

The property, approximately 25 acres pending a final survey, is located just south of Sunshine on the east side of Scenic. It was included in the property originally deeded to the university in 1968 by the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare for "educational use."

MU tops universities in academic funding

The University of Missouri, Columbia has now received more funding over the past four years from the National Science Foundation than any other college or university in Missouri.

From 2000 to 2003, MU researchers received a total of $59.7 million in NSF grants or nearly 36 percent of all funding the NSF awarded to Missouri institutions.

UMKC law students travel to Florida

UMKC law students qualified for National Student Trial Advocacy Competition. The competition will take place at West Palm Beach, Fla., in March.

The school of law has also received praise for its skill in analysis, research, team problem solving, oral advocacy in the courtroom, witness interviewing and cross examination.

This is the third regional performance in advocacy competitions the law school has participated in this academic year.

Rep. Byrd introduces tort reform

BY KARENA WELLS
State News Editor

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — Tort reform has become a buzz word at the Missouri state capitol and March 2, the House began hearing Bill 1304 that could change tort actions in the state.

"I saw that the system was out of balance," said Rep. Richard G. Byrd (R-Kirkwood). "In my 20 years experience as an attorney, I can attest that the system works better when the system is balanced and everyone gets a shot."

Byrd said when an accident happens, people are held accountable, unfortunately, sometimes in excess.

Byrd said, each year millions of dollars are paid out by insurance companies because of accidents that occur on the road, in hospitals and in the workplace. Insurance claims in the state have resulted in large sums of money being given to cases where there is no real cause.

Physicians have moved their practices out of Missouri because of the high rates on insurance they must carry.

"I have a friend that is a physician," said Rep. Jack Jackson (R-St. Charles). "He said he has to carry insurance on babies he delivers until they are 23. I don't even carry insurance on my kids that long."

Other aspects of the bill include where a case can be heard. In previous years, a change of venue has resulted in an increase in the amount paid in claims.

Rep. Bryan Pratt (R-Blue Springs) introduced an amendment to the bill that would decrease the percentage of interest paid out in claims from 9 percent to a sum comparable to a two-year certificate of deposit.

"Right now you cannot get a nine percent interest rate anywhere," Pratt said. "Why shouldn't the interest paid be reflective of the current economic climate?"

The new fluctuating interest rate was not agreed upon by members of both sides .

Democrats argued the interest rate would prevent insurance companies from quickly settling claims. They also argued that as the economy improves, rates will increase, but plaintiffs will be locked in at low rates.

Another amendment was introduced, that would place a cap on the amount of non-economic wages paid out in a claim. The cap amount would be $350,000.

"You are placing a price tag on human life," said Rep. Kathy Jolly (D-Kansas City).

Representatives from Southwest Missouri were in favor of the bill.

"There is no way to put a dollar figure on human life," said Rep. Bryan Stevenson (R-Webb City).

"However we can concentrate on guaranteeing there will be a doctor in the emergency room when you need them."

"Lawyers are taking advantage of people," said Rep. Ron Richard (R-Joplin). "The pendulum has swung to far and now we have to bring it back."

"It has definitely got out of control," said Rep. Marilyn Ruestman (R-Joplin). "Right now when you file a lawsuit it is like you won the lottery."

House Bill 1304 did not come to a vote but representatives hope to have an answer by next week.

Security bill faces house committee

BY KARENA WELLS
State News Editor

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — At the house committee meeting for Homeland Security, House Bill 1555, Missouri Uniform Communication Act for Homeland Security was examined.

Bill sponsor, Rep. Mike Sager (D-Lee's Summit) said the creation of a standard for all emergency response communication would be beneficial to the state.

The bill states that if any first response group decides to buy new equipment, it must be at a frequency where it can be heard by all other groups.

Sager said this was not a program that would require state funding.

It would not be necessary who had recently redone their communication system to spend money on another one.

"Hopefully, there will be federal money available soon," Sager said.

"My small community just spent money upgrading their system," said Rep. Ray Salva (D-Sugar Creek). "How could we appropriate money for our communication standards?"

"My bill does not address funding," Sager said.

Rep. Gina Walsh (D-St. Louis) questioned Sager as to whether insurance rates would change for communities unable to immediately upgrade communication.

"This would be a phased-in program," Sager said. "I am against an unfunded mandate. I just believe if we receive funds there should be standards as to what we bought."

He said that when 9-11 occurred, one of the problems facing first responders was the inability to communicate with other responders.

Jim Biggerstaff, director of communication for the Missouri Highway Patrol, said that inoperability was a big concern facing his department.

"Hopefully, there will be federal money available soon. I just believe if we received funds there should be standards as to what we bought."

Rep. Mike Sager
(D-Lee's Summit)

"There is a real need for real communication in real time," Biggerstaff said.

Tim Daniel, the Missouri director of Homeland Security, was also an advocate of the bill.

"Inoperablility is without question a big problem," Daniel said. "It puts us in a very destructive position."

Salva questioned Daniel about whether any funding from the Homeland Security Act had been received.

Daniel said so far no money had been given for this year.

In 2003, $59 million was allocated to Missouri.

There is still $19 million of the allocation left that has not been received by the state.

The $40 million received has already been assigned to different organizations in the state.

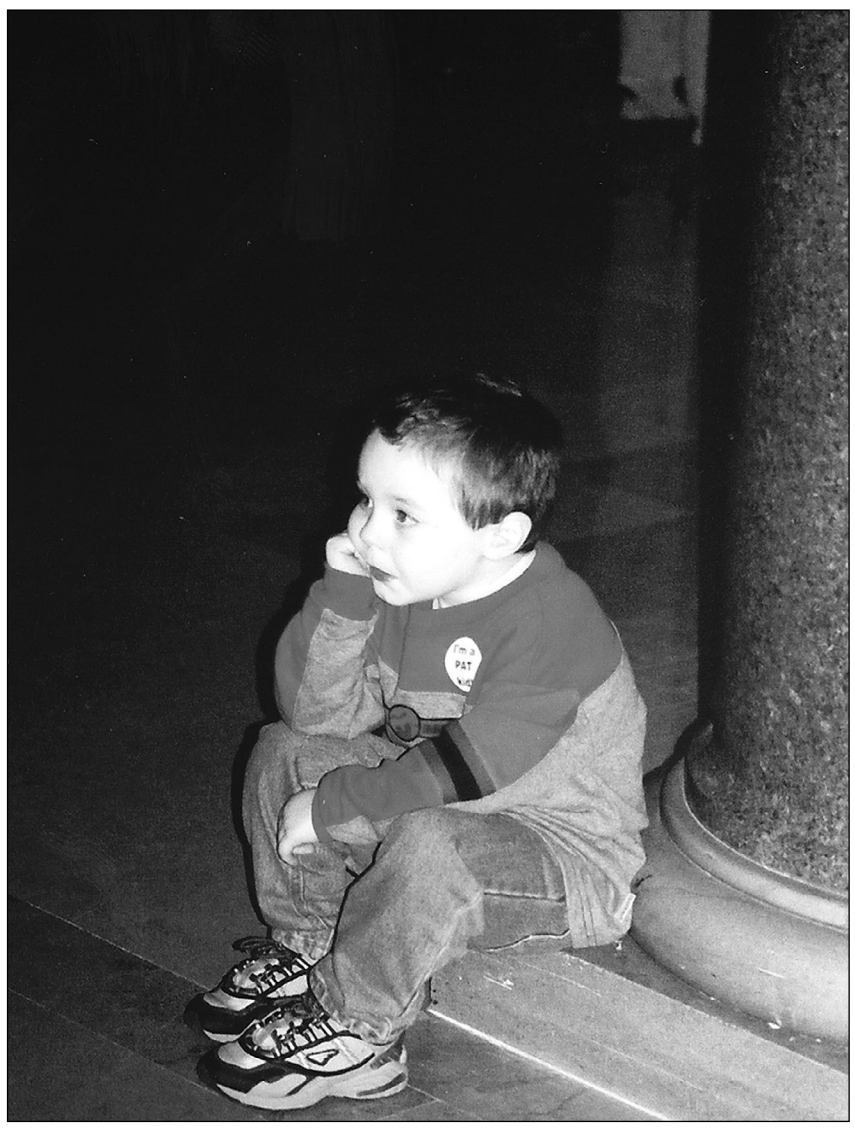
Daniel said it was not an issue of misuse of funds, but rather it was a situation where funds are reimbursed after the fact.

If a city does not have the funds initially it makes it incapable of improvements.

Currently, it is unknown if any other city will use the funding.

The committee made no final decision on the bill and placed it on the schedule to visit again.

BREAK TIME



Daniel Black rests during the rally for Parents as Teachers March 2.

Karena Wells/ The Chart

Senate bill plans to increase support for science in Missouri

Senators debate value of science education

BY KARENA WELLS
State News Editor

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — Senate appropriations committee on education met March 2 to discuss the value of science in education.

Senate Bills 978 and 979 hope to create a greater desire in Missouri students by offering programs at different levels of education that foster an interest in science.

Senate Bill 278, sponsored by Sen. Stephen Stoll (D-Festus) would allow collegiate scientists and the Missouri science industry to work together in hopes of creating a better job force for the future.

"If we don't plan accordingly, Missouri runs the risk of severing its science industry." Stoll said, "Industries will merge or move out of state, and we will lose companies, dollars, jobs and the skill base we are just now starting to develop."

In recent years, the number of students graduating with degrees in math and science has decreased.

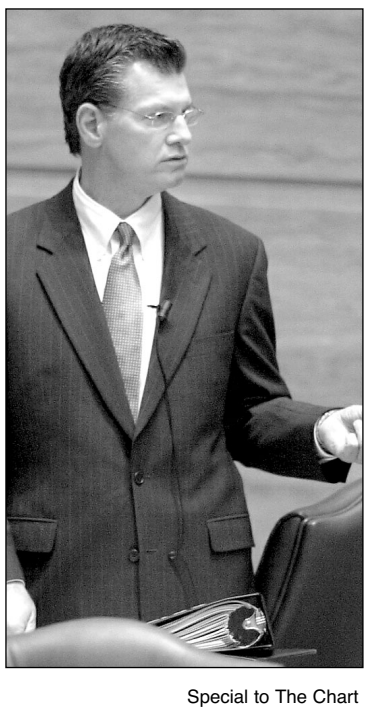
Stoll argues that if students are given access to better resources, their interest in science will increase.

The Science industry that exists in Missouri would grant students privilege to work in their research environments.

As interns, students would be learning first hand, have knowledge of job opportunities after graduation and science industries in Missouri would have a ready work force of students already knowledgeable of the industry.

Stoll has a clear goal: better students, better jobs and better state.

Senate bill seeks to modify dental standards



Special to The Chart

Sen. Ken Jacob (D-Columbia) speaks out against dental bill.

BY KARENA WELLS
State News Editor

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. — Creating a new standard in dental care was the topic in the Senate March 2. Senate Bill 1222, sponsored by Sen. Charles Shields (R-St. Joseph) would modify provisions relating to the practice of dentistry.

Requirements would be set for all dental practices that would include investigation into the quality of service.

A new definition of "practice of dentistry" would allow anyone involved with a dentist's professional judgment or anyone who reviews patient data in order to make judgments on the dental care of a patient.

Shields said dentistry is mainly a one-man operation where there is a constant pressure of being able to make a profit because of the amount of extensive expenditures.

"Right now, dentists offices are full of paying customers," Shields said. "Taking patients on assistance creates lost profit."

The bill would create specific groups to provide free dental care and make requirements for individuals seeking it.

The bill states a permit is required from the Missouri Dental Board before any organization can practice dentistry.

Sen. Ken Jacob (D-Columbia) said this might prevent not-for-profit groups from being able to offer dental care.

"I'm for promoting health care," Jacob said, "and the ability to get health care for those who otherwise would not have it."

"Sen. Jacob, they don't want to see your teeth, they want to see your check."

Sen. Charles Shields
(R-St. Joseph)

His argument was many dental patients currently do not pay the cost of the dentist out of their own pocket, but insurance pays many of the bills.

Whether insurance rates would be altered if dental standards changed was a question.

A question was also raised about the chance of people falling through the cracks. They might not qualify for free dental care and might not be able to afford going to a regular dentist.

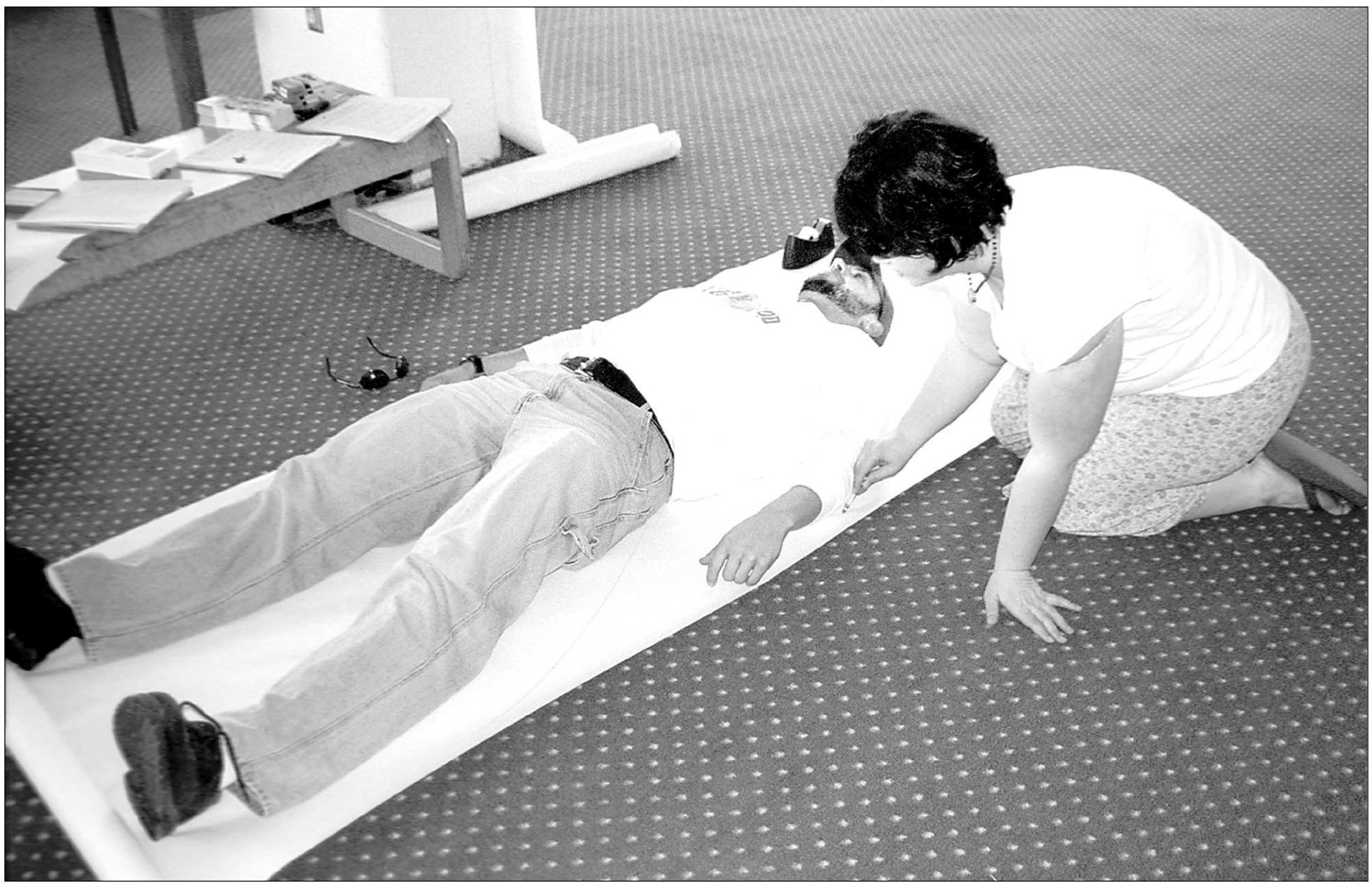
Jacob said everyone should be able to receive dental care at not-for-profit facilities. He believes patronizing free clinics would help to build up those facilities ability to serve those who need them most.

"At my clinic in St. Joe," Shields said, "Sen. Jacob, they don't want to see your teeth, they want to see your check."

Sen. Gary Nodler (R-Joplin) was supportive of the bill.

"I think it is vitally important that dentists offices in Missouri abide by the standards of the Missouri Dental Association," Nodler said.

The bill was placed on the informal calendar.



Derrick Dickey, sophomore health promotion and wellness major, has his body traced by Lynn Fleishman, senior English major.

Brandi Boulware/ The Chart

WEEK:

From Page 1

woman and must deal with the pressure from her parents in deciding her future.

"I loved it," said Anna Baker, junior psychology major. "You see the change of Ana in the movie."

"It led you into the culture," said Kelly Wilson, director of student support services. "It showed independence, appreciation for the mother and the support you get. I think Ana stayed true to herself; she empowered the women in the sweatshop. She had a strong personality and encouraged others to say, 'I like the way I am.'"

On March 1, more than 140 people saw Michelle Garb, comedienne and a recovered anorexic, present "Fat Brain/Skinny Body," a lunch-and-learn program on the third floor of the Billingsly Student Center.

She also spoke that night in Webster Hall Auditorium.

Garb talked about the problems that factor in with eating disorders.

"My goal is to have people realize they have an eating disorder early on," Garb said. "And take care of it so they don't ruin their whole lives battling with an eating disorder and not recognizing that they have this problem."

Garb said it was difficult to overcome anorexia.

"I made really bad choices," she said. "I lost out on a lot of things in my life because of it. I don't remember a lot of my life because I was so busy worrying about my weight and food, and because I was starving myself, my brain was not working as it could have been."

> *"... a big problem is that people aren't educated on [eating disorders]."*
>
> **Jeri Rinehart**
> *Sophomore*
> *Secondary Education Major*

She said she is trying to bring awareness of eating disorders through her presentation.

"I am not trying to cure anybody," Garb said.

Holley Goodnight, coordinator of new student programs and CHAMPS life skills, said other schools and the NCAA recommended Garb as a speaker.

"We liked her title "Fat Brain/Skinny Body," Goodnight said. "We liked the fact her presentation was a little bit different than everyone else's. She can approach a serious topic in a different manor."

Voigt-Catlin said there was a good turnout for Garb.

"All the comments and feedback I heard from people afterward ... thought she was a dynamic speaker," she said. "They enjoyed how she presented."

"I thought she was a great speaker," said Meredith Shetley, junior chemistry major. "She was informative and very entertaining. I learned more of the clinical signs and symptoms. I would enjoy listening to her lecture again."

Also on March 1, a fair was held on the second floor of the BSC. Booths addressed topics such as healthy eating, healthy exercise and eating disorder and disordered eating screenings.

"We [took] a holistic approach," Voigt-Catlin said. "Not just eating disorders, but taking care of yourself with your diet, your sleep, your self-nurturing activities and your exercise."

Eating Disorders Awareness Week is meant to bring awareness to the campus.

"I think a big problem is that people aren't educated on it," said Jeri Rinehart, sophomore secondary education major. "They don't know enough about it, but it is very important, if not short-term effects, I mean definitely long-term effects that can affect you in the long run."

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University remembers poetry, life of Hughes

Adam Fast/The Chart

Herbert Brown, sophomore special education major, performs one of two songs he sang during the 12th annual Langston Hughes Celebration held Feb. 27. Brown sang "If I Can Help Somebody" and "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot," as well as leading the audience in singing "Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing" at the end of the celebration. Brown also performed some of his own poems at the celebration.

BY PHILIP MARTIN
Executive Editor

Joplin was questioned where its heart was on Feb. 27.

During the 12th annual Langston Hughes Celebration, guest speaker Dr. Akiba Harper, dean of undergraduate studies at Spelman College in Atlanta, said if Joplin is the birthplace for Hughes then it should be the home of Hughes scholarship.

"The annual celebrations you have could easily grow into a magnet for some of the thousands, or maybe even millions of people in the world who cherish the work and the legacy of Langston Hughes," Harper said during her speech.

"It becomes a question if Joplin wants to become the home of Langston Hughes, not just his birthplace. And if home is where the heart is. I'll just say, 'Joplin where's your heart?'"

Harper said other cities that had famous authors born there have become the heart of their scholarship, even though some of the cities are smaller than Joplin. She said Eatonville, Fla., which is smaller than Joplin, started a celebration for Zora Neale Hurston similar to the Hughes celebration.

Harper said the Hurston celebration has grown in size and stature.

"Eatonville was tiny, now thousands of people are coming to these Zora Neale Hurston celebrations every year," she said.

"They're filling up the hotels, they're bringing all kinds of dollars with them. Great celebrities, like Ruby Dee and Ozzie Davis come."

Herbert Brown, sophomore special education major, said it's good to ask where Joplin's heart is, because it might bring more people to the celebration next year.

"I think it will catch on," Brown said. "The message she gave tonight on if Joplin has a heart, then they should make this Langston Hughes' heart."

Brown sang a couple of songs, as well as reciting some of his own poetry.

He sang "If I Can Help Somebody" and "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot" as well as lead the audience in "Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing."

Brown said he became involved in performing after he volunteered for the Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebrations.

"I was singing to some students one day in the hall and Doris Walters heard me singing," Brown said.

"And Dr. Rogers heard me sing. He said 'Would you like to sing in the Langston Hughes program?'"

During the program children from the United Hebrew Congregation, Unity Baptist Church and the Kids Kufara Marimba class performed selections from Hughes' *The Dream Keeper*. At the end of the celebration five copies of *Coming Home: From the Life of Langston Hughes* were given away to children under 12.

Audience members enjoyed the celebration.

Stephanie Lloyd, Missouri Southern alumna, said she enjoyed all aspects of the celebration.

"I thought it was great that kids from the community were involved," Lloyd said. "For Joplin to have a big-time speaker, you know a nationally renowned person, that's so awesome to have that in Joplin."

Ruthie Cox, president of the NAACP's Joplin chapter, said she enjoyed Harper's speech the most.

"I think she enlightened us, on how he lived in many, many different places," Cox said. "It was very enlightening."

Harper said Hughes would have enjoyed the celebration.

"He would have sat in the audience and laughed," she said.

"He would have loved it and then written all of his friends a postcard with his characteristic green ink and would have told them how wonderful it was."

At A Glance ...

Langston Hughes
African-American Poet

- ★ Born Feb. 1, 1902
- ★ From Joplin
- ★ First poetry book, The Weary Blues, published in 1924
- ★ First novel, Not Without Laughter, published in 1930

WATER:

From Page 3

through the kinesiology department. This course will satisfy students' physical activity requirements.

The other two sections of the program are open to the public, though students and others associated with the University usually fill those classes.

Webb teaches one course midday, twice a week, and Kim Boessen, senior secondary education-physical education major, teaches an evening course, also twice a week.

Boessen said she started teaching the course for experience.

"It's a good way to be affiliated with the school and with the wellness program," Boessen said.

She said she enjoys teaching the class she would like to teach it again in the fall, but said she will "just have to see."

Webb said the open classes usually have about 10 people enrolled.

Kristi Brown, Southern alumna, took the class both for exercise and to spend time with friends and coworkers.

"It gives you a natural high," Brown said. "And it tones you."

"You can make it intense or you can make it easy," Webb said. "But it is good for everyone."

For information on the aquatics class, or any of the campus's wellness programs, contact Darren Fullerton, director of campus recreation and wellness at 625-9392.

SPRING BREAK BLITZ
MARCH 9-11

TUESDAY MARCH 9
11:45 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
Think Fast Game Show
Compete against other Southern students to win Cash and prizes
BSC Lounge

WEDNESDAY MARCH 10
10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Video CD
Pick your favorite song and make your own video CD to play in a home computer or on a DVD player.
BSC Lounge

7p.m.
Talent Show
Come see all the talent Southern has to offer!
FREE ADMISSION!
Taylor Performing Arts Center

THURSDAY MARCH 11
9 p.m.-1 a.m.
Spike Night
FREE T-shirts, FREE food, prizes, music, games!
laser tag, sumo wrestling, crafts, swimming, volleyball, basketball, and scuba diving.
Young Gym\Pool\Racquetball Courts

Events sponsored by the Campus Activities Board, Student Support Center, RHA and Campus Wellness and Recreation

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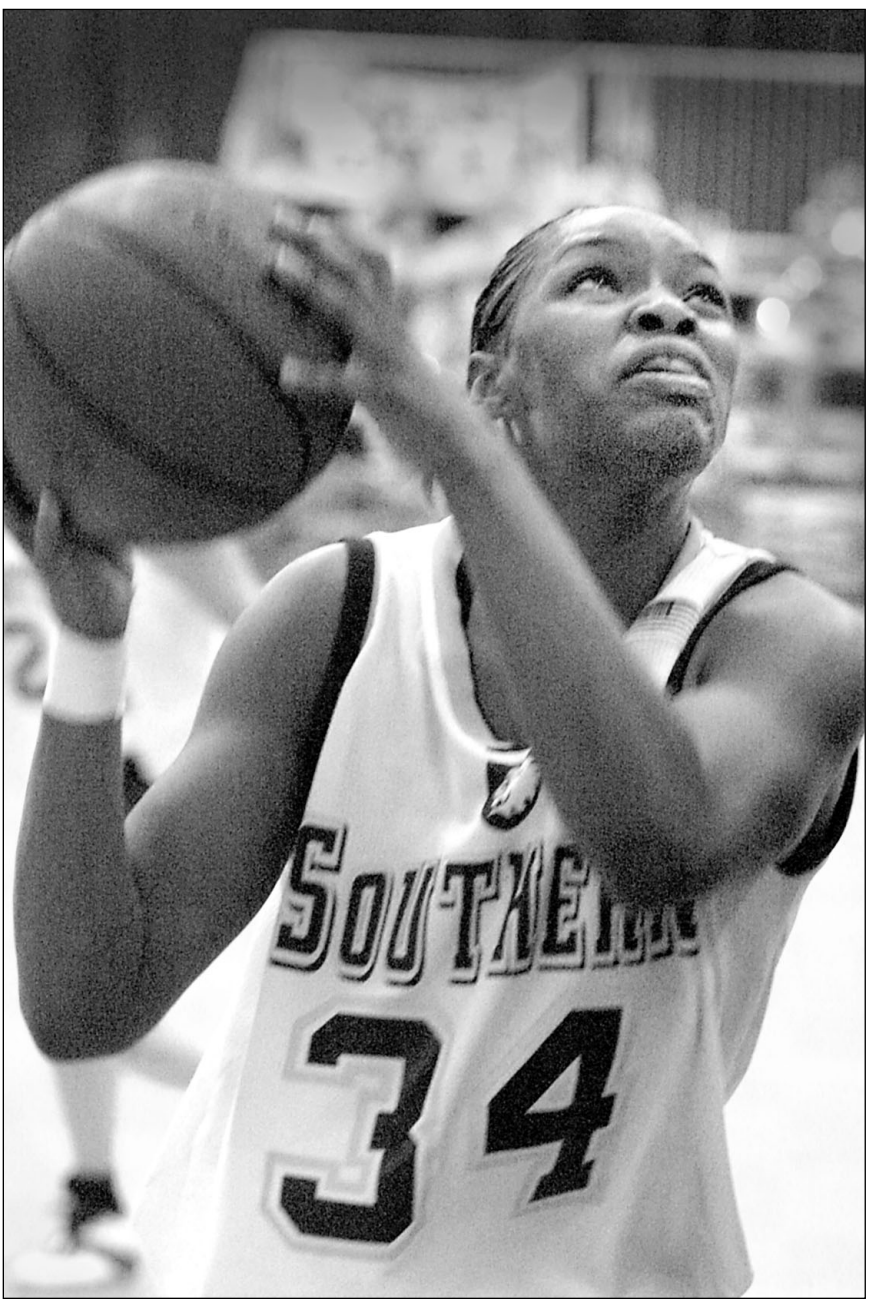

File Photo

Wyketha Harrell, senior psychology major, takes aim toward the MIAA. Harrell was named honorable mention in all-conference.

MIAA announces Harrell for honorable mention

BY RUSS HAGERMAN
Sports Editor

Being grounded in life is something Wyketha Harrell is used to. Harrell, senior psychology major, grew up in the military while her father served in the Air Force.

She had the opportunity to live and visit different places.

"I'm claiming Kansas City, that's where we ended up at," she said. "I'm really a military brat; we moved around a lot."

Her family is spread around a little. Harrell has two nephews, one in Kansas City and the other in Utah. She also has a niece in South Dakota.

She has two brothers, Jeremy who lives in South Dakota and Michael who lives in Kansas City.

On the basketball court, Harrell proves her mettle. Harrell was named honorable mention for all-conference in the MIAA.

"When I was younger, I was quiet and shy," Harrell said. "Now I am outspoken and opinionated. I am more mature."

With the accolades and determination on the court, Harrell did not start playing basketball until she was a freshman in high school.

It was the rest of her family that played sports.

"My mom played basketball and softball," she said. "My dad played basketball in club sports while stationed in Germany. I was a daddy's girl."

Other family members played sports as well. Her oldest brother played baseball, and her second oldest brother played football, baseball and basketball.

Harrell plans to continue on in her education when she graduates from Southern.

"I plan to attend the University of North Carolina-Greenfield for graduate school," she said. "I want to go into sports psychology."

Harrell said she didn't want to go into the counseling side of things, but rather do applied research.

She said she wanted to continue working with basketball but would work with any sport.

She hopes to work with Division I schools.

Maryann Mitts, head coach, said Harrell is a pleasure to be around.

"Wyketha is one of the most sensitive, caring, friendly, compassionate, happy people I have ever run across," Mitts said. "She is a very dynamic lady."

Missouri Southern is a comfortable place to be, Harrell said.

"I came to Southern from Rockhurst University because Coach Mitts came here," she said.

Mitts said she thinks as Harrell continues to grow as a person, she is developing a strong personality.

Harrell said she plays basketball for her mom.

"My mom comes to every game," she said.

Baseball team begins season, works toward conference

BY JEREMIAH COOK
Staff Writer

To start its season, the Missouri Southern baseball team will play in three tournaments, facing 12 teams, all in the space of three weeks time.

The Lions kicked off their 2004 season at home in the MSSU Larry Hickey Classic on Feb. 27 through Saturday. Starting off at home is something the Lions wanted to do for more than just themselves.

"I like playing at home," said Warren Turner, head coach. "I want to play at home as much as I can. Eighty-five percent of my team is from the local area, so why not play at home where these people can see them play every day?"

"We like playing at home, and the tournaments give us a chance to have a bunch of home games in a row and to play every day," said Jeff Taylor, sophomore right-handed pitcher/first baseman.

While it may be early in the season, the Lions have already found a few areas they want to address before they head into conference play.

"We started off struggling with our bats," said Jake Lawver, senior right-handed pitcher/infielder. "But we've come around, our defense is looking good and our pitching staff is confident. The hitting will come around."

The Lions know they are facing stiff competition in the tournaments, but think facing such teams now will help them to prepare for the rest of the season.

"We've got some pretty good competition here," Taylor said. "Playing teams like that is going to help us when it comes conference time."

Taylor's teammate agreed.

"It's good for us," Lawver said. "It gets us ready for our conference. We've already faced a lot of good teams, and we're just going to see how it goes. We need these games because it will help us to get a regional bid in the end. It's good for us to win."

It's about more than just winning for the Lions, who believe the focus of their program should be on developing the individuals as more than just players.

"I've learned how to work with a team," Lawver said. "I think that it's really taught me to step it up a notch and just not waste any time, because I'm going to be done after this time."

"I think its developing people as a whole," Taylor said. "Not only are we baseball players, but we do a lot of community service, and try to keep our grades up."

Turner maintains a philosophy for the team.

"There are four B's to baseball," Turner said. "The Bible, brotherhood, books and baseball, in that order. I want them to be humble and appreciative of the things that people do for them. When they leave here, they know that it's important to give back."

Upcoming Tournaments

- Larry Hickey Classic, Feb. 27-March 6
- Mutt Miller Classic, March 7-13
- Leroy Wilson Classic, March 14-20

LION STATS

Men's Track

Feb. 28 Results
MIAA Championship

School	Points
1. MSSU	**112**
2. CMSU	111
3. NWMSU	101
4. PSU	100
5. ESU	53
6. UMR	24
7. TSU	16
8. SBU	10

Women's Track

Feb. 28 Results
MIAA Championship

School	Points
1. MSSU	**117**
2. PSU	99
3. TSU	91
4. CMSU	79
5. ESU	62
6. NWMSU	40
7. UMR	37
8. SBU	2

Track Schedule

NCAA Division II Championships
March 12-13 Boston

Basketball Schedule

Sonic/MIAA Championships
March 4-7 Kansas City

Women
2:30 p.m. March 4
vs. Missouri Western State University

Men
8:30 p.m. March 5
vs. Northwest Missouri State University

Softball Schedule

Missouri Western Tournament
12:30 p.m. March 6-7
@ St. Joseph

MSSU Hampton Inn/Ott Foods Classic
10 a.m. March 12-13

Tennis Schedule

Northeastern State Classic
8:30 a.m. March 5-6
Tahlequah, Okla.

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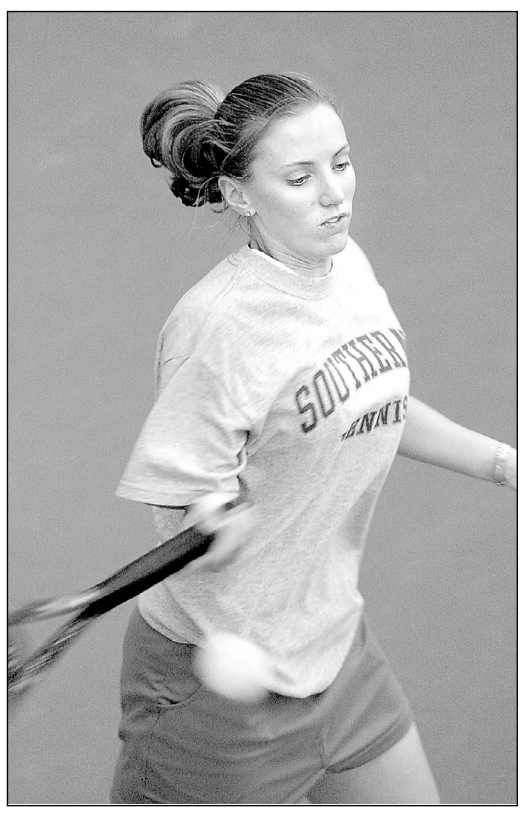

Andy Tevis/The Chart

Lacey McMunn, junior secondary education major, left, and Sheryl Posch, senior member of the tennis team, play in single matches against Drury and Rockhurst Feb. 28 and 29. The Lions lost both matches 9-0 and 6-3 respectively.

Southern loses to Drury, Rockhurst

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Love wasn't in the air for the Lions.

The women's tennis team dropped its opening matches against the nation's 28th ranked team in Druy University with a 9-0 loss on Feb. 28 at home. On Feb. 29, the Lions faced Rockhurst University and came away with their second loss. Rockhurst won 6-3.

The Lions travel to Northeastern State University to participate in the Northeastern State Classic Friday and Saturday at Tahlequah, Okla.

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On the right track

Track teams win MIAA conference championship, look forward to nationals

Andy Tevis/The Chart

The women's indoor track team shows off its trophy following the award ceremony. Both track and field teams claimed MIAA indoor championships Feb. 28 at the Leggett & Platt Athletic Center.

Andy Tevis/The Chart

The men's indoor track team goes wild when presented with its first MIAA championship trophy in the history of Missouri Southern.

Women take 117-99 victory over Pitt State

By Jeremiah Cook
Staff Writer

One year after finishing in sixth place in the conference indoor championship meet, the Missouri Southern women's indoor track and field team once again found itself competing for a conference title.

Never before had the women's team claimed the title of the top team in the MIAA.

Although the team had won several meets throughout the season, it was considered a dark horse to win the conference championship.

"Looking back on it now, I think that the thing that you can never take away is the human factor," said Patty Vavra, head coach. "I think that's a large part of the reason that we won this championship, is because of that human factor. This was a total team effort. It took better than their best efforts. They stepped up a step above what they had done all year, and it took every one of them to do that. It took a lot of heart. This is a group of young ladies that competed for two days with all the heart in the world."

> *"This was a total team effort."*
>
> **Patty Vavra**
> *Head Coach*

Senior hurdler/sprinter Mary Still said she "feels great" about the win.

"Going from sixth last year to first this year is quite a difference," Still said. "In fact, one of our team goals this year was to finish higher than last season, so it exceeded all of our expectations."

Over the course of the season, the Lions had several team members qualify to compete in the national track and field meet, Friday and Saturday, March 12-13 in Boston. Junior thrower Danee Jones, Still and sophomore jumper Sara Mueller will all make the trip to compete for national championships. It's a trip that they are anxious to make.

"I am so excited," Mueller said. "I couldn't really believe it. I kept checking every night to see if I had made it. Then we pretty much knew that I was in, but I wouldn't tell anybody, 'Yeah, I'm going,' because there was always that little doubt in my mind that something might happen. I'm so excited. I can't wait to leave. I think that I might go home and pack."

"You always go in thinking that you want to finish higher than you were seeded going into the meet," Still said. "But, for me, indoor nationals is just the icing on the cake. I really want to be All-American for indoor track, and I'll be disappointed if I don't get it. It's not the kind of pressure that I put on myself for outdoor track. It's more of a bonus."

Men win by one point, beat eight-time defending champs

By Jeremiah Cook
Staff Writer

For the first time ever, the Missouri Southern men's indoor track and field team is conference champion.

The title was won by the men in the last event of the meet, the 4x400 relay. The men picked up a fifth place finish to break Central Missouri State University's eight-year winning streak.

"If you weren't there, you missed one of the best exhibitions of desire, heart and athletic ability," said Tom Rutledge, head coach. "I've had 13 championships in my college career and in coaching, and none of them that I can remember were as exciting or as well earned. I can't remember one that was better than this one."

To help secure the win, the Lions' 3,000-meter team took the top three spots, and four of the top six in the event. After it was over, and the men knew they had won, they knew that a long season filled with hard work had been justified.

"There was a big sigh of relief," said Paul Koehler, junior distance runner. "Everybody had worked pretty hard for it, and coach kept preaching to us about how we could win, and I think we all knew that we had it in us. It was just a matter of going out there and doing it, and once we realized that we had done it, it was just a great relief."

Although the men didn't score in any of the sprinting events, they did have the aid of the meet's co-top point scorer, senior distance runner Brian Lyons, who scored 26 points, won titles in the 3,000 and 5,000-meter events, and broke a school record in the 5K run.

"I just did my part," Lyons said. "I said last week that I was going to lay it all out on the line at the meet and do the best that I could and take whatever would follow, and I did. I just played my role. The points just came, and I just did what I could do. I was just so happy that the team won, and that I could be a part of it."

The Lions will be sending three members of their team to compete in the national tournament in Boston. Senior weight thrower Arley Smith, sophomore pole vaulter Matt Campbell and senior pole vaulter Chris Turner will represent Southern in the national championship meet on March 12-13.

But the men know they also have the outdoor season to prepare for as well.

During the outdoor season, the men will have the chance to win the triple crown, meaning the combination of the cross country, indoor track and field and outdoor track and field conference titles, all in one school year. While the men don't have any time off between the indoor and outdoor seasons, it's a challenge they are feeling up to.

"It's outdoor season now," Lyons said. "It starts the next day, and we have some momentum going into it. We want that triple crown, I know that."

Andy Tevis/The Chart

Neil Hombs competes in the 4x400 meter relay. Southern needed a fifth-place showing in the final event to secure the victory by one point.